

IRA ready to hit mainland targets again'

King urges vigilance to combat active unit

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Greater vigilance was urged on the part of civilians and service men yesterday by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who said it was highly probable the IRA had established an active service unit on the mainland.

Mr King issued his warning as the IRA killed another soldier in Ulster, the third within 24 hours.

He said further attacks could be expected on the mainland in the aftermath of the explosion at the Inglis Barracks in Mill Hill, north London, on Monday.

"It is clear the IRA is trying to develop a campaign to kill

as many people as they can," Mr King said. "That's all they know."

He also announced that he had cancelled holidays scheduled to start yesterday to stay in touch with senior officials at the Northern Ireland Office and with Whitehall.

Mr King's warning that an active service unit could be operating in Britain is likely to have been made against the background of intelligence briefings by the Royal Ulster

the car in spite of it being market day.

Mr King said that, in the case of Det Constable Warnock's murder and the shooting less than 30 minutes later of another member of the UDR in a crowded shopping centre seven miles away, it was almost certain that people must have seen something that could help the investigations.

Another UDR volunteer, Private Roy McNicholl, aged 30, was shot dead yesterday morning as he drove to his civilian job in Co Tyrone. Private McNicholl had been a part-time soldier for 12 years. He was married with a daughter aged three and lived at Cookstown, Co Londonderry.

Bomb inquiry

Constabulary on the latest IRA plans.

In an interview on BBC Radio Ulster, Mr King said: "To look at recent tragedies, one realizes the total indifference of the IRA in who they may kill so long as they kill and cause as much distress and suffering as possible."

He rejected criticism from Mr James Moynihan, the Official Unionist leader who said the Government was being distracted from the one aim of eradicating terrorism by a number of "sideways" arguments on such irrelevant issues as devolution, integration and privatization.

The Government was absolutely determined to defeat the terrorists, but "I am not prepared to say that we won't attempt to make some political progress, to tackle the economic situation, the lack of jobs", Mr King said. To do that would be to allow the Provisionals to dictate the agenda.

As Mr King was being interviewed, the security authorities in Ulster were considering how to increase the personal security of the police and Ulster Defence Regiment volunteers.

They are particularly keen to provide more secure parking after the murder of RUC Det Constable John Warnock, aged 45, who was blown up as he drove off duty in Lisburn, Co Antrim on Tuesday.

He had had to park his car for seven hours in a street in the town centre because of the lack of space at the Seymour Street RUC station where he worked. It is believed that a 3lb bomb was placed beneath

Thatcher is mobbed by Melbourne protesters



Under guard: Mrs Thatcher being escorted on a walkabout after she was surrounded by yelling demonstrators yesterday.

Security row over police blunder

From Robin Oakley, Melbourne

A potentially dangerous blunder by police and security authorities here yesterday saw Mrs Thatcher mobbed by yelling demonstrators during a shopping mall walkabout.

IRA supporters, far-left groups, unwashed squatters and gay rights activists jostled around the Prime Minister, shouting slogans, throwing sweets and on one occasion firing what turned out to be a water pistol close to her.

At one stage she was pinned up in a shop for nearly 15 minutes while police, who appeared to have no concerted plan, cleared a way for her motorcade to whisk her away.

When the cars did come Mr Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's press secretary, missed by a hair's breadth being run over.

What was all the more surprising was that security forces had been on special alert for the Prime Minister's safety after the theft of a large consignment of explosives shortly before her arrival in Australia and the IRA's new terror campaign in London.

Later, Chief Inspector Brendan Bannan, of the major incidents and planning section of the Victoria state police, said: "I believe the problem was caused by the media. It was the photographers that impeded her progress."

But the photographers were only a tiny proportion of the human wave that propelled us up Little Collins Street, bruising bystanders and frightening mothers and children. Photographers do not shout "Maggie out", "Fascist beast" and "Home home homophobe".

And Mr Frank Green, the Assistant Commissioner in charge of security, said: "The walk was at the insistence of the British authorities and against the recommendations of the Victorian Government and police." He said the Downing Street party had insisted on an informal walk and that was the reason no barriers had been erected. Other officials and police admitted, however, that the walkabout had been a "schmooze" and a security disaster.

A senior Downing Street official with Mrs Thatcher's party said: "We have no evidence of any advice against the walkabout and our normal disposition is to seek barriers because this helps both the public and the media."

Mrs Thatcher was determined, however, to carry on with her next scheduled walkabout in Sydney today.

Reagan fuels Dukakis controversy

'Look, I'm not going to pick on an invalid'

From Charles Bremner, New York

The mental health of Mr Michael Dukakis, the Democratic contender for the White House, emerged yesterday as a presidential campaign issue after an ill-chosen joke by President Reagan and a call by *The Wall Street Journal* for the Massachusetts governor to clean up over his medical history.

For months, fringe political groups have been circulating rumours - strongly denied by Dukakis staff and his doctor - that he had undergone psychiatric treatment for depression twice during the 1970s.

In the past week, the stories and denials surfaced again after Mr Dukakis declined either to answer detailed questions on his health or to release his full medical records.

Yesterday, Mr Reagan sent the issue into the headlines when a reporter asked him whether he felt that Mr Dukakis should make his medical records available so that the public could decide if he was fit to lead the nation.

Mr Reagan replied: "Look, I'm not going to pick on an invalid." Minutes later, he tried to play down the gaffe, saying that he had been joking and "I don't think I should have said what I said."

Mr Dukakis laughed off Mr Reagan's joke. "I'm a very healthy guy," he said in Boston. Asked if he had ever suffered from depression, he said: "No." Asked if he had ever consulted a psychiatrist, he said: "No."

The Wall Street Journal, which is strongly pro-Republican, yesterday abandoned the caution exercised so far by the rest of the serious press and in a long editorial suggested that there might be fire behind the rumour smoke.

It said: "What strikes us in the health-record issue... is how little the American people know about this man nominated to be their President. And upon whom, to judge by the polls, many voters have projected their hopes for an efficient, uncomplicated, straight-arrow leader."

Rumours of depression were predictable from incidents in Mr Dukakis's biography, the newspaper said. "It is not too early to say there is something curious going on here."

Both Mr Dukakis's spokesmen and his personal physician have denied the stories. Dr Gerald Plotkin said this week: "I have never treated him for depression, nor has he shown any signs of depression, nor am I aware that anyone else has ever treated him for depression or any such symptoms."



Mr Reagan: Regretted his joke about Mr Dukakis.

Prime Minister criticized over South Africa

Kinnock's apartheid attack

By Philip Webster in London and Robin Oakley in Canberra

Mr Neil Kinnock accused the Prime Minister yesterday of being apartheid's leading apologist and of being timid in her approach to the South African regime.

The Labour leader said Mrs Margaret Thatcher had more sympathy with the "black-mayors" in the South African government than with the victims of apartheid, but she did not have the candour to admit it.

Mr Kinnock, who raised Conservative hackles by attacking Mrs Thatcher over sanctions during his recent trip to southern Africa, delivered his latest outburst after she rejected sanctions during a question session at the Canberra Press Club on her Australian tour yesterday.

She said: "The enormous problems which that country has of getting rid of apartheid would not be helped by - from a comfortable luncheon or parliament building or international conference in a five-star hotel - deciding that there should be poverty and

starvation on the part of a large number of black people because we would choose to impose comprehensive sanctions."

"That would not help at all and I would always shrink from doing it," she urged Western nations not to isolate South Africa. "We have talked to the Soviet Union, even though we fundamentally disagreed with them," she said.

Big foreign companies, she said, were actually breaking down apartheid with their mixed housing schemes and payment on merit.

"To have any sanctions against them would be to break down the instrument which in practice will bring apartheid to an end."

Mr Kinnock then issued a statement in London saying that Mrs Thatcher was "making her usual excuses".

He said the apartheid regime was using 28 million people as hostages and Mrs Thatcher was happy to fall in with that, letting policy be dictated by the hostage-takers.

She was as "wilfully wrong" as she had always been, he said. The demand for sanctions came most strongly from the people in the churches, the townships and the trade unions in South Africa, not from people in the distant comfort of "five-star hotels".

By claiming that black people would starve as a result of sanctions, the apartheid regime was trying to blackmail the world into not adopting sanctions. Mrs Thatcher rightly rejected the dictating of policy by hostage-takers elsewhere, so why did she accept it so readily from apartheid?

"It can only be that in this case she has more sympathy with the black-mayors than she has with the victims - and has not the candour to admit it. Why else would someone who has tried to build a reputation as an international tress approach apartheid with the timidity of a stray tabby cat?"

Though they have disagreed sharply in the past about sanctions, Mrs Thatcher and

Red Square pilot freed by Moscow

By Our Foreign Staff

Herr Mathias Rust, the young West German pilot whose landing in Red Square shook the Soviet Defence Ministry to its foundations, was freed yesterday after 14 months in a Moscow prison and expelled to his home country.

The 20-year-old flier, who penetrated Soviet airspace in a single-engine Cessna on May 28, 1987, was taken directly to Moscow airport from Lefortovo Prison, where he had been held ever since his flight.

Tass news agency said the

Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the country's highest executive body, decreed earlier in the day that Herr Rust "be freed from further serving his term and expelled from the Soviet Union."

He was told the news of his release by the Soviet Assistant Procurator-General, Mr Anatoly Vrublevsky, and responded, "Thank you."

Herr Rust told a Tass correspondent that he had no complaints about his treatment in captivity, and that he was eager to return to his family and friends.

"I realize that I have committed serious criminal offences and the fact that the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet freed me from punishment before I served my term is an act of humanism," Tass quoted him as saying. "I think this also attests to the overall improvement of relations between our two countries."

He said he wanted to be reunited with his family and



Herr Rust, after he was freed from prison yesterday

Astronomers detect giant planet in outer space

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The first observations that show the existence of a planet orbiting a star outside the solar system were described yesterday in a report to the International Astronomical Union.

The astronomers estimated that the planet is 30,000 times larger than the Earth. It is so close to its own star that it orbits once every 84 days. Mercury, the planet closest to the sun, has an orbit of 87 days.

The discovery was announced by Dr David Latham, from the Oak Ridge Observatory in Massachusetts,

to a conference being held in Baltimore.

He described how his team had found the planet by accident while they were conducting instrument tests using a star known as HD 114762. The characteristics of the star are so well known that astronomers have used them for years as a standard against which they can compare measurements when they are looking for basic types of star.

The astronomers were analysing the light from HD 114762 with a photon-counting system instrument mounted on a 61-inch reflector telescope. Their instruments detected a slight wobble

in the motion of the star that could only be caused by a nearby orbiting body.

Dr Latham said that the planet would have to be massive, about 20 times larger than Jupiter, which is the largest planet in the solar system, in order to give the star such a wobble.

Yet the planet is too small and too distant, about 90 light years from Earth, to be seen directly. The size of the planet was derived from calculations of its gravitational effects on the star.

Dr Latham believes the discovery indicates that "companion bodies" or planet-like bodies orbiting stars, may

be more common than was previously believed. That would provide plenty of chances for an Earth-like planet supporting life.

The new planet is probably lifeless, because it would have a surface temperature of hundreds of degrees. "It is much hotter than an oven," according to Dr Latham.

The technique the astronomers used was not sensitive enough to detect whether the new planet had a companion the size of Earth.

The detection of the planet around the star has been confirmed by a Swiss astronomer, Dr Michel Mayor, at the Geneva Observatory.

WIN £138,000

Portfolio
PLUS NEW
Accumulator

There were two winners of the £4,000 daily prize yesterday (see page 3) so the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £138,000. Prices: page 23

INSIDE

Gatting is fined £5,000

Mike Gatting, the former England cricket captain, was yesterday fined £5,000 by the Test and County Cricket Board's disciplinary committee.

Gatting, sacked from the captaincy earlier this summer following newspaper allegations concerning his private life, breached his contract by including references in his book to the controversial tour of Pakistan.

Accolade for The Times

The Times comes out top among Britain's national newspapers for political and sports coverage, according to a survey published yesterday by *Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine.

The newspaper carried more stories about the two subjects than any of its rivals, and it also received high ratings for its reporting of science and religion, and features on defence, law and order.

Bishops' move

The Lambeth Conference yesterday agreed that all the other 26 primates of the Anglican communion ought to be consulted about the appointment of the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

Degree results

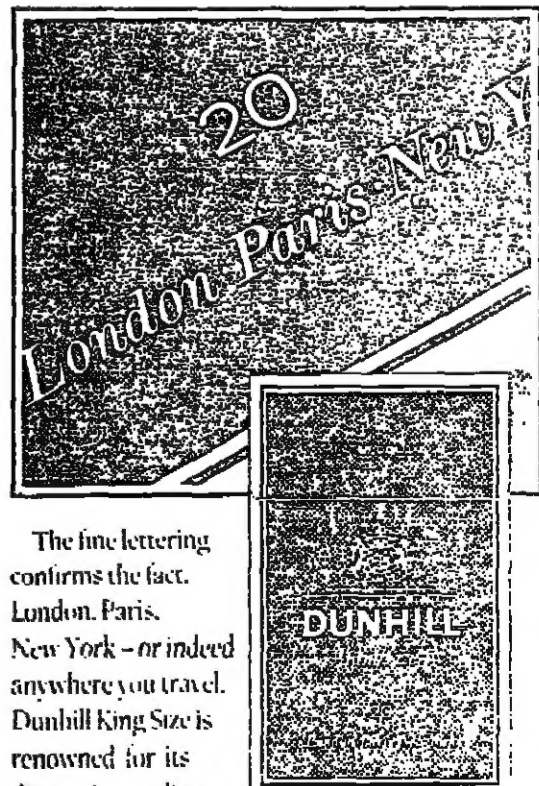
Degrees awarded by the University of Sussex will be published tomorrow. Ulster and Brunel results appear today.

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*****SL

The King Size from Dunhill



The fine lettering confirms the fact. London, Paris. New York - or indeed anywhere you travel. Dunhill King Size is renowned for its distinctive quality. Created by master blenders, employing care, patience and infinite skill, Dunhill King Size offers exceptional smoothness.

Blended to your taste

LOW TO MIDDLE TAR As defined by H.M. Government
Warning: SMOKING CAN CAUSE
FATAL DISEASES
Health Departments' Chief Medical Officers

NEWS ROUNDUP

Supplies of baby rattles stopped

Boots has suspended supplies to its stores of a 99p baby's rattle after a complaint from a Staffordshire family when the bell fell apart and came out of the rattle's cage. Product safety staff at the company, which has sold 52,000 of the Taiwan-made rattles since they were introduced a year ago, are examining the faulty one. Boots will decide whether to withdraw the product, called Boots Bell Rattle and which conforms to British and European standards, from sale when the tests are complete.

Mr Philip Mansey, landlord of the Albion public house in Newcastle-under-Lyme, complained when the bell broke apart as his seven-month-old son Steven played with it. "He could very easily have swallowed the bell", he said.

● In April Boots withdrew cot bumpers from sale in all its stores after a 21-month-old baby was strangled by ties attached to one. Since then other retailers, including Marks and Spencer, have issued warnings to shorten bumper ties to eight inches.

'Law shops' warning

Consumers seeking advice from solicitors, accountants, surveyors and other professionals operating from under one roof may be at a disadvantage because of conflicting disciplinary codes, the National Federation of Consumer Groups says in its latest newsletter. When things went wrong consumers wanted a clear, well-defined complaints procedure, the federation says. The relationship between clients and solicitors should be carefully considered before it was diluted in the interests of "supermarket professional shopping".

Nuclear policy attack

The policy of siting nuclear power stations near centres of population is criticized in a report by the Royal Institute of British Architects whose main conclusions will be released tomorrow to coincide with the anniversary of the first atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The report, *Nuclear Disasters and the Built Environment*, says that siting policy is "more lax" than in the United States, with five nuclear power stations — at Berkeley, Bradwell-on-Sea, Oldbury, Heysham and Hartlepool — within 10 miles of more than 100,000 people.

Triad group denied

Two members of the Chinese community in Portsmouth, who were said to have led a Triad plot to demand money with menaces from a Chinese businessman in the town, denied any knowledge of a Triad organization there, a court was told yesterday. Det Constable Peter Stokes said he interviewed Siu Sum-cheung, aged 36, and Tin Leung-wong, aged 33, of Seymour Close, and both denied being members of a Triad. The two and Sau Yin-cheung, aged 30, and his girlfriend, Yuet Ming-chun, aged 40, both of the Old Farm Way, Harland, Portsmouth, deny conspiracy to demand £6,800 from Fu Wing-chun, a businessman.

Screening for cancer

Mr Antony Newton, the new Minister of Trade and Industry, yesterday launched a cancer screening programme for 37,000 women employees at the Post Office. The service, which is being run by the AMI Healthcare Group, will cost £850,000 and uses a specially-built mobile unit equipped with consulting rooms staffed by an all-woman medical team. It will tour Britain over the next two years to offer cervical cancer screening services to all female Post Office employees and breast screening for women over 45.

Tree fund response

The National Trust's appeal for funds to clear and replace trees lost in last October's hurricane has been the most successful in its history. It is within £20,000 of its target of £1.5 million and will be relaunched on the anniversary of the storm to attract long-term funding for the creation of the parks, gardens and woodlands of the twenty-first century.

English player beats chess title favourite

By Harry Golembek, Chess Correspondent

David Norwood, the English international master, caused a big surprise in the Kleinwort Benson British Chess Championship at Blackpool yesterday when he beat Viswanathan Anand, the world junior champion.

Norwood, from Bolton, beat Viswanathan, an Indian grandmaster and one of the favourites for the title, in 55 moves. The English player leads the competition with three points from three matches.

Other results: R Bellin ½, D King ½, G Flear 1, S Bell 0; P Rossiter 0, M Hebdien 1; J Gallagher ½, G Morrison ½; C McNab 1, G Quillan 0; P Large ½, S D Singh ½; N Carlton 1, N McDonald 0; A Mack 0, M Hennigan 1; Miss S Jackson ½, L Cooper ½; M Orr 1, J Poulton 0; M Lyell 0, A Mortazavi 1; G Burgess 1, T Clarke 0; T Upton ½, P Hutchinson ½; P Giulian ½, G Fraser-Mitchell ½.

Electricians aim for pendulum rail deal

By Tim Jones

Leaders of the electricians' union may try to negotiate a pendulum arbitration system at Docklands Light Railway in east London.

Earlier this week, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, which faces expulsion from the Trades Union Congress for refusing to abandon two such deals, ensured a wide-ranging membership war when it beat off a consortium of the three traditional rail unions to become the only recognized union on the east London light railway.

Because a negotiating procedure has already been established at the railway, the union would seek such a deal only if the 43 members it has and other workers represented by elected staff company councillors wanted it.

Although acknowledged as a progressive method of crazing confrontational "them and us" disputes within companies, surprisingly few firms have embraced the system since it was introduced in Britain seven years ago in an agreement between the electricians and Toshiba at Plymouth.

Essentially, pendulum arbitration is designed to introduce moderation and reason in negotiations and is underpinned by a binding acceptance by both sides that failure to agree will be put to an arbitrator whose finding will be final.

The arbitrator must come down firmly for the case of one side or the other and does not have the freedom to suggest a compromise solution.

In an extreme case, where a union claimed a pay rise of 25 per cent and a company offered nothing, the arbitrator would be forced to choose one or the other.

At present, the EETPU has about 30 such agreements, but they are generally resisted by other unions

such as the Transport and General Workers' as they are usually allied to no-strike deals, which fundamentalists say remove the rights of workers to withdraw their labour.

Mr Roy Sanderson, of the EETPU, said: "Any reasonably minded student of industrial conflict can see there are no winners when it comes to a strike."

"We seek these agreements in the knowledge that the arguments we put forward are based on a reasonable assessment of the situation and not on any ideological conflict."

The Engineering Employers' Federation, which represents 5,000 companies employing 600,000 workers, said it was not aware of a single member using the system and the Confederation of British Industry said it had no policy on the matter.

Some big unions feel justified in rejecting the pendulum formula because in the 15 or 16 cases where

such agreements have run their course, companies, on the "score count", are ahead by three to one.

In the latest case, IBC Vehicles, the joint US-Japanese-owned van manufacturers lost an award to the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union, which have been among the most vociferous in demanding the expulsion of the electricians from the TUC.

The IBC agreement, which includes the electricians and the Amalgamated Engineering Union, was unusual in that it included the proviso that the pendulum award was legally binding, with the implication that failure to abide could result in legal suits.

In another recent decision, the engineers' union lost its pendulum arbitration with Bonas Machines, a Sunderland-based company that makes pattern textile weaving equipment.

Railway union may act on ballot

By Tim Jones and Kerry Gill

Britain's largest rail union may register an official complaint against the ballot that resulted in Docklands Light Railway workers in east London voting to be represented by the electricians' union.

The National Union of Railwaymen indicated last night that if there were any irregularities in the way the secret postal ballot was conducted, it would ask the Electoral Reform Society, which oversaw the voting, to conduct its own investigation.

The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union regards the result as a significant victory against Britain's three traditional rail unions.

NUR officials say at least five of their members did not receive forms enabling them to take part in the ballot.

Because victory for the electricians' union was secured by only four votes, the NUR believes any suggestion that its members were denied an opportunity to vote must be investigated. Its officials will, however, consider the possibility that some NUR members failed to receive their voting forms because of a change of address.

Some NUR officials have also claimed that the Docklands Light Railway management provided superior facilities to the electricians' union.

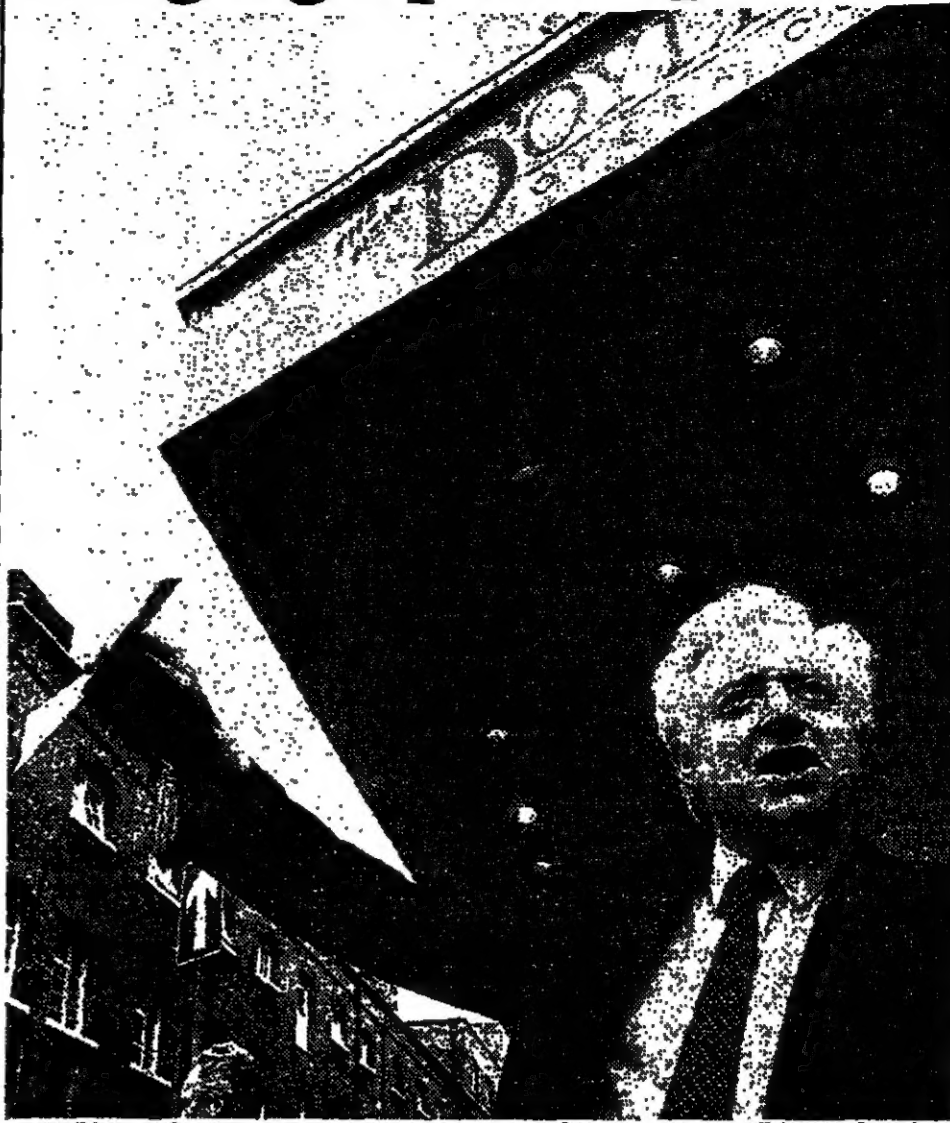
Last night, Mr Cliff Bonnett, managing director of the east London railway, said: "All the unions concerned have been treated in exactly the same manner. No union had preferential treatment."

The Electoral Reform Society was provided with a full list of staff eligible to take part in the ballot and the detailed arrangements of the ballot were left to it.

He said all the unions concerned had agreed that postal delivery of ballot papers was the most satisfactory method of distribution.

● The Scottish TUC followed the English body yesterday in voting to suspend the EETPU. Mr Campbell Christie, the STUC general secretary, said it would be up to individual unions to decide whether they regarded the electricians' union as "fair game for poaching".

Singing opera's praises



Mr Richard Condon in trenchant mood yesterday (Photograph, Deazil McNeelance).

By Andrew Billen

The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company wants Gilbert and Sullivan to be taught in schools in recognition of the continuing cultural importance of the Victorian comic operas.

Mr Richard Condon, general manager of the company relaunched five months ago, said yesterday that the Department of Education and Science was considering incorporating the operas into the GCSE music syllabus.

The original D'Oyly Carte company collapsed in 1982 after the Arts Council refused it subsidy. It has been revived at a cost of £500,000 mainly from the estate of Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte, the granddaughter of the impresario, and sponsorship from British Midland Airways.

Mr Condon believes the tours, lasting up to 11 weeks, will be worth £750,000 a year.

An agreement is about to be finalized with Mr Harold Shaw. The first eight-week visit to the United States in 1990 will probably feature *Iolanthe*, *The Mikado* and *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Mr Shaw said from New York: "I am interested in it as an investment. The D'Oyly Carte is established as part of the cultural life of Great Britain and generates great interest abroad."

The original D'Oyly Carte company collapsed in 1982 after the Arts Council refused it subsidy. It has been revived at a cost of £500,000 mainly from the estate of Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte, the granddaughter of the impresario, and sponsorship from British Midland Airways.

Mr Condon believes the tours, lasting up to 11 weeks, will be worth £750,000 a year.

● The final transfer of ownership of the Lyceum Theatre in

BBC wins more news viewers

By Richard Evans Media Editor

The BBC has increased its audience share for weekday television news to 59 per cent.

The 18-point gap for the first half of 1988 compares with a 12 to 16 per cent difference for the same period last year. BBC chiefs last night said it was a "major advance".

Mr Ron Neil, BBC director of news and current affairs, said: "These figures are encouraging as they show that the BBC is providing a news service which is watched by a growing number of viewers."

Mr David Nicholas, editor and chief executive of Independent Television News, said *News at Ten* has, on average, beaten the BBC's *Nine o'clock News* over the past year, and has more than one million extra viewers.

He claimed the only reason the BBC had registered improved lunchtime figures was that the news was scheduled before *Neighbours*.

"ITN swept the board with four major prizes at the Royal Television Society Journalism awards", he added.

Issues' attack, page 3

MPs attack doubling of Broadmoor expenditure as Holloway prison officers stay out

Jail building costs spiral

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Huge overruns on the costs of constructing prison courts and other public buildings were disclosed in a sharply critical report by an all-party committee of MPs yesterday.

The cost of redeveloping Broadmoor Special Hospital had almost doubled to £33 million from an original estimate of £17.5 million, while the costs of building new prisons had soared by up to 82 per cent, the environment select committee said in a report on the performance of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some of the overruns were due to "error or ineptitude" and some to work commencing

before designs had been completed. The main cause was government departments changing their minds half way through a project.

At Littlehey prison, an extra £274,000 had been added to the total cost because the spacing between the staircase railings was too wide. At Thorn Cross open prison, smoke blowing the wrong way from a new boilerhouse led to extra costs of up to £1.2 million.

In oral evidence agency officials had been unable to cite any instances of requests for modifications being turned down, or of heads rolling as a result of the huge cost escalations.

By Andrew Morgan

The officers' social club at Holloway Prison has changed from relaxation area to nerve centre of industrial action, with many of the 250 officers involved talking of rising danger levels resulting from understaffing, and increased smuggling of narcotics to prisoners.

The club, with its combination entrance lock, reverberated to the sound of the record "Union Man" as shifts of officers spent their working day in this "safe area", with many walking out for the first time.

There was muted excitement each time Miss Jackie Mobbs, a national executive

member of the Prison Officers' Association, announced supportive action from officers at other London jails, as they refused to receive any further prisoners.

The women mocked claims by Mr Colin Allen, the governor, that Holloway was running smoothly with the help of deputy governors from other prisons and non-striking officers. "We left some members in the psychiatric wing but, apart from that, Holloway has its problem", one officer said.

The club's bar was out of bounds and the shifts of up to 50 women, plus the occasional man, spent time cleaning the lounge and making sandwiches in between detaining

replica gun — missed through alleged reductions in searches. The officers, earning between £13,000 and £15,000 a year, said action had escalated after a mandate was ignored that three staff should be present on each landing at unlocking time.

Last Friday, they claimed two wings were unlocked with only one officer on each, and that was found to be "totally unsafe".

Officer D Tarry (first names are not used), who was involved with cell searches until two weeks ago, said: "We can't guarantee enough safety for inmates if the whole of the prison is unlocked. If a major incident occurred, we might not be able to handle it."

The officer, with 10 years service at Holloway, added: "How can a prison be expected to run smoothly with inadequate staff searches. It is leaving the prison wide open for our safety and the safety of the prisoners."

Undermanning had reached a peak, through the introduction of the "Fresh Start" working system, which they had agreed to give a three-month trial.

Officer P Taylor, with 14 years service at Holloway, and head of prisoner reception, said: "At evening times, it is a particularly unsafe place to be. Reception is undermanned with inadequate numbers of fully trained officers."

Issues' attack, page 3

Bomb reconstruction begins

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Within the next few days the focus of the police investigation into the Mill Hill explosion will move from the shattered barracks block in north-west London to a vast covered shed run by explosives' experts from the Royal Armaments Research and Development Establishment based at Woolwich Arsenal, south-east London.

In that shed in the months to come the establishment's scientists will minutely sift scores of bags of rubble and debris from the barracks. What emerges may allow them to reconstruct the bomb and could eventually lead to the conviction of its manufacturer or armourer.

One anti-terrorist expert said yesterday: "It is a long, painful process but it is so essential."

The scientists' findings will be matched against a vast library of information culled from other attacks and arms finds over the years. The bomb at Mill Hill could match other devices where identities or fingerprints have been discovered.

The Woolwich team played important roles in the conviction last year of Gilbert McNamee, sentenced to life imprisonment as one of the IRA's most successful bomb manufacturers, and in piecing together the bomb which exploded at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, Sussex, during the Conservative Party conference in 1984.

The system of piecing-together material from bombing sites has now been developed to a sufficient degree in Britain for the Yard earlier this year to

lead a detective from the anti-terrorist branch to the Dutch police to help to organize their search for evidence after an attack on RAF men.

At Mill Hill the area of the bomb will be divided into zones stretching out from the seat of the explosion. Trained officers on the scene will be looking carefully for anything that might be connected with a bomb. At Brighton a key part of the bomb was found buried inside a hotel lavatory 15 days after the blast.

A pro-IRA march and rally is to go ahead in Islington, north London, on Saturday despite calls for it to be banned after the bombing of Inglis Barracks. The march, organized by the Irish Freedom Movement, marks the 17th anniversary of internment in Northern Ireland.

Strike warning to tourists

FLIGHTCHECK



Thousands of British holiday-makers on the Greek islands who are booked to return on charter flights over the week-end were being urged by tour operators to return to Athens earlier to beat tomorrow's strike by Greek seamen.

The crews of Greek coastal ships and ferries voted for 24 hours of industrial action from 6 am tomorrow after their government rejected their demand for a 30 per cent pay rise.

The two principal British tour operators, Thomson and Intersun, are telling tourists to return to Athens sooner to be able to catch homebound flights tomorrow night.

Peak time for charter flights is between tomorrow night and Sunday and stranded tourists cannot expect to find vacant aircraft free seats before the middle or the end of next week.

A collapse of holiday air traffic to Spain's east coast resorts as well as Majorca and Ibiza loomed yesterday after a strike call by air traffic controllers in the Barcelona region.

The executive committee of the Association of Catalan Air Traffic Controllers called for a strike action on the August 27 and 30, and September 3.

The processing of travellers' cheques was seriously disrupted yesterday after a fire at the Peterborough headquarters of Thomas Cook.

Birmingham: No delays. Bristol: Only delay yesterday was Orion Airways special schools charter to Grenoble which left at 4.00 pm, two hours late.

East Midlands: Two Britannia flights — from Alicante, due 1.30 pm, and Mahon, due 1.50 pm, arrived 3.00 pm. Orion flight from Treviso, due 1.10 pm, arrived 3.15 pm.

Gatewick: Virgin Atlantic flight to Miami due out 12.30 pm, rescheduled 6.30 pm. Heathrow: No delays.

Leeds/Bradford: No delays. Lanes Monarch flight to Ibiza left 4.45 pm, 80 mins late. Britannia flight from Rome due 1.45 pm, arrived 3.15 pm; Moe-arch from Reus due 1.45 pm, arrived 4.00 pm; Britannia from Palma due 2.45 pm, arrived 3.45 pm.

Manchester: Weekend backlog still causing delays up to five hours. Danair flight from Palma due 7.15 am, arrived 12.15 pm; Orion from Tenerife, due 7.45 pm, arrived noon. Amber Air to Leeds due 10.15 am, left 2.45 pm; BCal to Reus due out 10.50 am, left 4.00 pm. Newcastle: No delays.

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Police act to protect women drivers after bogus patrols scare

By Ian Smith, Craig Seton and Michael Horsnell

New measures to ensure female motorists are not stopped by bogus unmarked police patrol cars were agreed yesterday by six forces.

Senior officers, concerned by two recent incidents on the M1 in Leicestershire where women were stopped by men masquerading as undercover patrol policemen, unanimously agreed that their unmarked vehicles should be easily recognizable at close range.

Both the driver and observer in such vehicles will wear full uniform and distinctive yellow jackets bearing the word "police". The vehicles will also be fitted with a blue flashing light that can be affixed to the roof.

Senior officers from Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Cumbria and the Royal Ulster Constabulary attended yesterday's meeting.

Other police forces - in the South, South-east, West, Wales and Scotland - said they would continue using unmarked patrol cars, however.

Leicestershire Constabulary took the lead on unmarked cars earlier this week by deciding to withdraw them to protect solitary women from the growing menace of motorway prowlers.

Yesterday, several forces reminded crews to be sensitive when approaching female

drivers, and Essex police have decided to ban undercover patrols at night.

Leicestershire police withdrew all unmarked cars from the M1 motorway after a woman was forced to stop by men posing as officers on Friday.

She was flagged down near Coalville by three men in a white Granada.

One of the men, wearing plain clothes, repeatedly asked the woman to get into the Granada. She was suspicious, however, and refused. The men subsequently drove off.

Unmarked cars will not be reintroduced in Leicestershire until the force has drawn up a standard means of identification to show that officers using them are genuine.

Mr Malcolm Cairns, assistant chief constable, said: "We hope our action will give reassurance to solitary female drivers."

Superintendent Les Barker, head of the Greater Manchester police motorway unit, said officers throughout the north were aware of the extremely sensitive, often emotive problems of using unmarked police vehicles to stop motorists.

"Motorways, particularly the hard shoulder, are an alien environment and we appreciate the apprehension, often mistrust, felt by motorists being stopped by unmarked vehicles."

"We believe the solution is to ensure that once stopped, drivers are very quickly and easily able to determine whether the people approaching them are police officers. If in any doubt, they should demand to see warrant cards."

Chief Inspector Alan Vautrey, head of the West Yorkshire motorway unit covering the A1, said motorists should refuse to open their car door if in doubt, and insist on being escorted to the nearest police station.

"We recognize the difficulties and are ever mindful of misunderstandings," he said. "For that reason we advise motorists to take absolutely no chances if they have the slightest doubts."

In Hampshire, Chief Constable John Duke ordered patrols using the force's only unmarked vehicle to adopt a "softly-softly" approach when stopping lone female motorists.

"All our officers - especially those using the unmarked Granada - have been reminded that when approaching women they must do so with sensitivity."

In Derbyshire, Devon, Cornwall, South Wales, Strathclyde, Hampshire and the Metropolitan Police, policy will remain unchanged, though it was stressed yesterday that officers are always in uniform and carry warrant cards to verify their identity.

Mabel the spaniel saves duchess's silver



The Duchess of Beaufort rewards her dog Mabel with a hug in the library of Badminton House, scene of yesterday's break-in (Photograph: Chris Harris).

By Craig Seton

The Duchess of Beaufort described yesterday how she routed a burglar with the help of her pet spaniel Mabel, which made amends for years of biting the wrong people by attacking the intruder in a darkened library at her home, Badminton House, Avon.

The duchess, aged 60, was wearing only a nightdress as she rushed downstairs to tackle the thief, with Mabel in front and Mr Stephen Martins, aged 30, her butler, behind, after an alarm sounded in the 40-bedroom mansion near Bristol early yesterday.

"Mabel was very good. The last time we had a burglary three years ago she bit a police dog handler and she was in very bad odour. She does bite

people at the wrong time, but this time I think she put things right," the duchess said.

"Mabel ran to the library barking furiously and arrived first. When I opened the door she flew at someone and he dropped a bag of valuables and ran across the lawn. She knew someone was in the room and I let her get on with it."

"There was too much noise and too much going on for me to be frightened, but I am quite glad to be still here."

However, the duchess was less enthusiastic about the performance of Lottie, Mabel's sister. It was sleeping in an upstairs bedroom when the alarm sounded at 1 am.

"Lottie was absolutely useless and went back to bed almost immediately. I went downstairs in my nightdress

and the butler was there a few seconds later."

The burglar got into Badminton House, a favourite of the Royal Family, through a conservatory door and after fleeing the seventeenth-century mansion by the same route escaped over a deer fence in the extensive grounds, pursued by the butler. Police arrived within minutes of the alarm sounding.

A spokesman said yesterday: "It was very brave of the duchess to go downstairs and confront the burglar. The man clearly had a good look around and what could have been a big burglary was prevented."

Detectives later discovered that the intruder had stolen an eighteenth-century antique tea caddy in silver, containing three smaller caddies inside. Two glass jars were also missing.

They believe a holdall containing valuables which was dropped by the intruder in the library after Mabel's attack might provide clues to his identity. The Duke of Beaufort, whose family motto is "I scorn to change or to fear", was away on business at the time.

In another raid on a country house yesterday, dogs belonging to Sir Seton Wills, of Eastridge House, near Marlborough, Wiltshire, failed to prevent burglars taking silverware worth an estimated £60,000.

Sir Seton, a member of the Wills tobacco family, said: "We slept through the raid and so did our dogs. We were asleep while they ransacked the place during the night. Much of it is family heirloom. We are heartbroken. It is irreplaceable."

Care of the mentally ill

'U-turn' alleged on hospitals

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Government has told health authorities that the closure of mental hospitals is not the main aim of its policy on providing community care for the mentally ill.

A new Department of Health circular is being interpreted by some psychiatrists as evidence of a shift in the existing policy.

Under present plans, more than 30 hospitals for the mentally ill are scheduled to close in the next six years. About 25,000 beds for the mentally ill have been closed in the past 10 years, while about 66,000 people are now treated as in-patients.

The Department of Health denied yesterday that the circular represented a change in policy, but one leading psychiatrist described it as a Government "U-turn".

The circular says the chief aim is to develop at local level

a comprehensive psychiatric service in every health district, focussing the catchment areas of traditional mental illness hospitals principally on their own districts.

A consequence of this, the circular says, is to "run down and close those mental illness hospitals which are not needed as part of the developing pattern of district services". But, it adds: "The closure of hospitals is not a primary aim."

It says the developing pattern of services should make provision for the "continuing care of people with chronic mental illness" and "where necessary, improve standards in large hospitals as their populations reduce."

The services should "include enough suitable accommodation for the care of elderly mentally ill people who can no longer be cared for

at home". Professor Robert Brugha, head of forensic psychiatry at Birmingham University, said yesterday: "Everyone in the profession has believed until now that the Government policy is to close down the hospitals and transfer the patients to community care."

"The cost of running these hospitals is enormous but it may be that the Government now recognizes that community care is not a cheap option and may even be more expensive."

To those of us who deal every day with psychiatric patients, the circular is the most significant statement we have had from the DHSS for more than 10 years. It amounts to a U-turn in policy dealing with the mentally ill and an admission that the community policy is not working."

The experiment, confined initially to a dozen Crown Courts, would be a significant step in reducing stress on child witnesses. The video links would be used in cases involving witnesses under the age of 14, and would enable them to see and hear the face and voice of the judge or whichever counsel was speaking. Their replies would be relayed to large screens in court.

The experiment does not go as far as campaigners for reforms in the arrangements for child witnesses had hoped. Recorded video interviews will still not be admissible as evidence, and children will be questioned by lawyers from the courtroom, not interviewers sitting with them. However, Mrs Michelle Elliot, a child psychologist who runs the child abuse charity, Kidscape, said the experiment was a step forward.

Courts to test child video link

By Robin Young

Children in abuse cases will be allowed to give evidence by live video link in a six-month experiment starting in January, Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, announced yesterday.

He said that too many of the 3,400 cases brought against alleged child abusers each year had been failing because child witnesses found the ordeal of appearing in court too intimidating and failed to complete their evidence.

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Support for Cleveland critic

By Jill Sherman and Ian Smith

Dr Raine Roberts, the Manchester police surgeon who described the Cleveland child abuse inquiry report as a "whitewash", was supported by her police department and by the Cleveland families' solicitor yesterday.

On Tuesday Dr Roberts, criticized in the Butler-Sloss report for siding with parents after she gave a second opinion on 39 cases of alleged abuse, accused the inquiry team of "selective and biased reporting of evidence".

In most of the cases she disputed findings of medical

evidence of sexual abuse made by Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, the two paediatricians at the centre of the Cleveland controversy.

She was also highly critical of their use of reflex and dilatation as a diagnostic technique.

Yesterday, Mr Stephen Murphy, chairman of Greater Manchester Police Authority, said: "We stand by Dr Roberts and unquestionably accept her findings. She has never given an incorrect diagnosis and that is why the chief constable,

Mr James Anderson, was unwilling to lose her from his medical team."

Last month the Greater Manchester force refused to accept her resignation after publication of the Cleveland report.

Mr David Scourfield, solicitor to 12 families involved in the crisis, said that both he and the families fully supported Dr Roberts.

"The parents feel Dr Roberts is a marvellous woman who deals with children very sympathetically and gently. I support her 100 per cent."

Portfolio
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Mr Colla Townsend's prudent checking of *The Times* Portfolio competition in his wife's absence secured her a half share in yesterday's £4,000 prize.
Mrs Mary Townsend, of Wigmore Street, London W1, said: "We're all delighted. I shall spend it on a well-earned holiday in Italy."
They share their good fortune with Mr John Deag, a retired Post Office employee, from Stone, in Staffordshire.

Isaacs condemns TV policy

By Our Media Editor

Television viewers will lose in the broadcasting revolution because the Government is driven more by political objectives than service to audiences, Mr Jeremy Isaacs, the founding chief executive of Channel 4, said yesterday.

Instead of seeking to couple the opportunities offered by new media and technologies, with the advantages of Britain's existing broadcasting system, government policy was allowing "zeal for a new order to sweep the old away".

"For the first time in our history, government, instead

of judging broadcasting issues by a test of cultural merit, i.e. their benefit to consumers, seems, at least in part, to be spurred by the urge to tackle trade unions, to extend competition and to see market forces prevail."

Mr Isaacs's criticism is contained in the 1988 annual Tawney lecture, *The Future of Television*.

Viewers' choice had not been extended in any country where unfettered market forces prevailed in broadcasting. "Indeed, as with our popular press, the range of tastes

catered for narrows. Foreheads are worn villainous low."

The general director designate of the Royal Opera House says it is now crucial to come to broadcasting's aid. "Not in defence of the broadcaster's vested interest, but in the cause of the one interest in this that really matters, that of the listener and the viewer."

Having "dealt with" the BBC, the Government had made ITV its target. Mrs Thatcher wanted to "break" the power of the television unions.

Which? faults minibuses and ice-cream

'Question mark' over passenger safety

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Minibuses should have seat belts for all passengers, strong anti-burst locks and seats which won't break loose on impact but will cushion a passenger in a collision, says the latest issue of *Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine.

The magazine says there is a question mark over the safety of minibuses, which seat between nine and 16 people, and whose numbers have increased since the de-regulation of buses in 1986.

It wants a special study of minibus accidents, under

consideration by the Department of Transport, to go ahead. There are safety omissions in the regulations over how the vehicles are built as they are treated separately from cars and vans on one hand, and buses and coaches on the other, the magazine says.

It is also impossible to monitor the safety record of minibuses accurately: accident information on them is lumped together with motor caravans. In 1986, the last year for which there are available figures, 1,657 people

were injured in caravans and minibuses, 18 people were killed and 309 were seriously injured. One in six of the passengers killed or injured was aged 14 or less and one in ten was elderly.

Ice-cream should have a standardized weight mark on every pack, says the association. At present ice-cream is sold by volume so you can't tell how much air has been whisked in, replacing the more expensive fat, sugar and milk solids. When *Which?* weighed eight different brands of vanilla ice-cream it found one

brand that weighed 408 grams per litre and one that weighed 520g per litre, due to the extra air added to the lighter one.

Many statements on food packaging are at best meaningless and at worst misleading, says the magazine in another article. It has surveyed people on their understanding of terms like "high in fibre" and "low calorie".

"Our survey shows that consumers are misled: people cannot confidently use simple statements about nutrients to make well-informed decisions about the food they buy."

Verdicts on Press not all good news

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Britain's national newspaper chiefs were preening themselves or hiding their heads in shame last night after the publication of a consumers' guide to the press which highlights their editorial strengths and weaknesses.

In some cases, newspaper executives were both delighted and disappointed by the findings produced in *Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine. The *Financial Times*, for example, contained more editorial words and pictures than any of its rivals, and had the best financial, business and economic news - but was bottom of the class when it came to spelling. It had even more mistakes

than *The Guardian*, which managed to spell its name as *The Guardian* in a news story.

The *FT* is, however, judged the "cleanest" read, least likely to leave ink stains on readers' hands, while the *Daily Record* is the worst.

The *Times* carried more stories on politics and sport than any of its rivals, and devoted more space to radio programmes, while *The Guardian* had the most feature pages.

Apart from covering the widest range of sports and giving generous coverage to law and order issues, *The Daily Telegraph* was top for being first with the news while *The Independent* and *The*

Guardian were most often "late with the news".

But readers should not always believe that magical word "exclusive" which appears above stories, especially in tabloid newspapers, the survey warns. "Many papers might have the same story with one claiming it's exclusive."

The *Independent*, launched nearly two years ago, is noted for its coverage of round-the-world temperatures.

The *Sun*, Britain's biggest-selling daily newspaper, serves up a potent mix of celebrity tales, TV and radio stories, and prizes. For the *Daily Mirror*, the world is full of catastrophes - it carried 30 disaster stories in 10 days.

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Lambeth Conference: pastoral matters feature inside and outside the debating hall

Bishops vote for a bigger say on Runcie's successor

By Alan Wood

A move to widen the process of consultation that takes place before the appointment of any future Archbishop of Canterbury was approved by the Lambeth Conference at Canterbury yesterday.

The bishops recommended that before any future appointment, the Crown Appointments Commission, whose chairman is appointed by the Prime Minister, be asked to bring the primates of the Anglican communion into the consultation.

This proposal was part of a comprehensive resolution on Anglican identity and authority presented by the doctrinal and pastoral section of the conference.

The main part of the resolution requested that the new Inter-Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Commission, or a specially appointed Inter-Anglican Commission, be asked to undertake urgently a further exploration of the meaning and nature of communion with particular reference to the doctrine of the Trinity, the unity and order of the Church and the unity and community of humanity.

The Right Rev William Persson, Bishop suffragan of Doncaster, moving the resolution and explaining why this further exploration was needed, said their immediate and particular cause for concern was the further impairment to communion between the provinces which would follow the ordination and consecration of a woman bishop.

Dr Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, said he welcomed the enhanced role the resolution envisaged for the primates' meeting. If, however, they enhanced the role of the meeting, they must expect it to affect the role and work of the Anglican Consultative Council.

The Anglican communion had always resisted the idea of a Pan-Anglican Synod. They had been wise to do so. If they were to be a communion which recognized its need for strengthening its inter-dependence, the effective way of doing it was through the Primates' Meetings. Giving an enhanced role for the Archbishop of Canterbury for creating a central synod — these were dangerous avenues.

He went on: "They are attempts to structure ourselves against other communions. We must not lose our character as a provisional communion — always seeking a wider unity than our own. We should not be ashamed that such untidiness or informality has enabled us to move into united churches whether in the Indian sub-continent or in China."

The part of the resolution referring to the appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury failed to mention that the Secretary-General of the ACC already sat on the Crown Appointments Commission when the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury was being considered. They could require him to consult the primates. That consultation would happen in advance of the commission actually meeting.

He commented: "My own personal view is that we should keep the Archbishop of Canterbury as essentially a diocesan bishop and not a constitutional monarch or alternative Pope."

The Most Rev Keith Rayner, Archbishop of Adelaide, said one new element proposed was close co-operation between the Primates' Meeting and the Consultative Council. This was a package in which they sought to set out the way in which the Anglican

communion could maintain its cohesion.

It was vitally important for the laity to play their full part in the decision-making and consultative processes of the communion. The way for that to happen was by developing either the size or role of the council. Many did not see it as a truly representative body.

One part of the resolution that evoked controversy was its request to the Archbishop of Canterbury and all primates to appoint an advisory body on prayer books which could offer advice on liturgical revision.

The Right Rev Colin Buchanan, Bishop suffragan of Aylesbury, moved an amendment to delete the idea and described the new body as an expensive white elephant.

The Right Rev Frank Griswold, Bishop of Chicago, said the amendment would destroy the point of the proposal by turning the advisory body into a post box system for mutual communication and, where possible, co-ordination.

The amendment was rejected and the resolution as a whole was carried by an overwhelming majority.



Mrs Brenda Ray, wife of the Bishop of North Michigan, United States, and Mrs Hannah Haruna, wife of the Bishop of Kwara, Nigeria, at the Texterden vineyard and herb garden in Kent which was visited by the bishops' wives yesterday.

Text of resolution on Anglican unity

This is the text of the resolution on authority in the Anglican Communion as amended and carried by the Lambeth Conference yesterday:

This conference: 1. resolves that the new Inter-Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Commission (or a specially appointed Inter-Anglican Commission) be asked to undertake as a matter of urgency a further exploration of the meaning and nature of communion; with particular reference to the doctrine of the Trinity, the unity and order of the Church and the unity and community of humanity.

2a. Urges that encouragement be given to a developing collegial role for the Primates' Meeting under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury, so that the Primates' Meeting is able to exercise an enhanced responsibility in offering guidance on doctrinal, moral and pastoral matters; and;

2b. Recommends that in the appointment of any future Archbishop of Canterbury, the Crown Appointments Commission be asked to bring the primates of the communion into the process of consultation.

3. Resolves that the Lambeth Conference as a conference of bishops of the Anglican communion should continue in future, at appropriate intervals.

4. Recommends that regional conferences of the Anglican communion should meet between Lambeth Conferences as and when the region concerned believes it to be appropriate; and in the event of these regional conferences being called, it should be open to the region concerned to make them representative of

clergy and laity as well as bishops.

5. Recommends that the Anglican Consultative Council continue to fulfil the functions defined in its constitution... in particular to continue its consultative, advisory, liaison and communication roles within the communion in close co-operation with the Primates' Meeting.

6. Requests the Archbishop of Canterbury, with all the primates of the Anglican communion, to appoint an advisory body on prayer books of the Anglican communion. The body would be entrusted with the task of offering encouragement, support and advice to churches of the communion in their work of liturgical revision as well as facilitating mutual consultation concerning, and review of, their prayer books as they are developed with a view to ensuring:

a. the public reading of the Scriptures in a language understood by the people, and instruction of the whole people of God in the scriptural faith by means of sermons and catechisms;

b. the use of the two sacraments ordained by Christ, baptism with water in the three-fold Name, and Holy Communion with bread and wine and explicit intention to obey Our Lord's command;

c. the use of forms of episcopal ordination to each of the three orders by prayer with the laying-on-of-hands;

d. the public recitation and teaching of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds; and;

e. the use of other liturgical expressions of unity in faith and life by which the whole people of God is nurtured and upheld, with continuing awareness of ecumenical liturgical developments.

South Africa told to leave Namibia

Anglican bishops at the conference called yesterday on South Africa to withdraw from Namibia.

The bishops hope that their resolution, passed unanimously, will influence the present peace talks in Geneva.

Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said it would be effective and significant if he conveyed its terms immediately to the US, Angolan, South African and Cuban delegations at the talks, especially as South Africa had disclosed the terms under which Namibia could regain independence by the middle of next year. He has written to Geneva conveying the full terms of the resolution.

It referred to the protracted suffering of the Namibian people at the hands of the South African regime and called on the Pretoria government to implement Security Council resolution 435. It asked the Anglican provinces of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States to

press their governments to fulfil their obligations as members of the Contact group of nations.

The Right Rev James Thompson, Bishop of Stepney, moving the resolution, said that Mrs Thatcher could have great influence on the Geneva talks if she and the Government decided that the freedom of Namibia was not only just but would benefit the world community.

He said at a press conference: "I am suspicious of the South African Government's intentions and sincerity, because they are constantly shifting the goalposts and trying to make further conditions."

The Right Rev James Kaniyama, Bishop of Namibia, said it was a political problem, with South Africa in Namibia illegally, and should not be used as a lever for South Africa to achieve victory on other issues.

Reports, page 6

Job lost over a teabag

The dismissal of a British Rail steward for using a non-regulation tea bag was fair, a Glasgow industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

A British Rail manager complained that a cup of tea he bought from the Glasgow-London train buffet car last November did not have its regulation teabag.

The steward, Mr Thomas Strain, of Birchwood Avenue, Mount Vernon, Glasgow, was accused of being involved in the sale of non-regulation tea and dismissed.

The tribunal, said British Rail suffered serious losses from staff selling non-regulation goods and had acted fairly and reasonably.

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'Educational events' may replace school lessons

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

A radical new approach to teaching, with "educational events" replacing traditional lessons, is being studied by the Government as part of plans to reform the state school system.

The revolutionary concept was devised by the London-based international education and training body, Organisation for Rehabilitation Through Training (ORT). It is drawing up a curriculum for the 20 city technology colleges the Government plans to open by 1990.

If the idea is a success it may soon spread to state schools in England and Wales to stimulate pupils' interest in

technology. ORT — a charity with an extensive network of technology training centres abroad — says its new methods have worked in Latin America and Mexico.

Children are encouraged to think creatively about technology by tackling and solving technological problems in "educational events".

In the proposed city technology college curriculum pupils would tackle two "educational events" each term involving a period of background work before going into the workshop or laboratory to make equipment or devise computerized solutions for problems. An

example of the how the system might work, submitted by ORT to the Department of Education and Science, features a project on lighting involving study in a range of areas including basic electrical work, the biology of human vision and marketing.

Dr Dan Sharon, ORT's technical director, said yesterday: "The key to the whole thing is creativity". The organization's director general, Mr Joseph Harnitz said: "We recognize it is a new idea but new ideas are what the CTCs are all about".

The ORT curriculum is likely to be implemented first at the Nottingham CTC, due

to open in September next year.

Mr John Ramsden, the Nottingham project director, said: "We have already been to Israel to see ORT work in action and we are hoping that with DES approval we will be able to use this here".

Empty school places are still costing the country £250 million a year while local education authorities fail to provide the country with an adequate service, the independent Audit Commission reports today.

It accuses local authorities of failing to come to grips with falling school rolls.

Mr Howard Davies, the controller of the commission, said: "At a time when educational resources are under pressure to cope with GCSE and the national curriculum, hundreds of millions of pounds are still being wasted on excess school capacity which will not be needed before the end of the century, if ever".

● The Nottingham CTC has appointed Dr Peter Bulett, the head of science at Rugby School, as head of its key faculty — science, technology and mathematics.

It also confirmed plans to introduce a four-term school year.

Cyclists take the high road



Two Oxford undergraduates warming up on Hampstead Heath before flying to Kashmir yesterday, from where they will attempt a 2,000 mile bicycle ride across the Himalayas for charity. Amar Inam, aged 18, who is studying zoology at St Catherine's College, and Joe McCarron, aged 19, from St Edmund's Hall, will spend two months riding their mountain bikes along the footpaths that wind

between Kashmir and the borders of Sikkim. They hope, on the way, to beat the world altitude record for cycling, which stands at 20,561ft. The project is in aid of Intermediate Technology, which promotes Third World improvement projects and has Lord Hunt and Sir Randolph Fiennes as patrons. The students' west-east traverse is in the opposite direction to that followed by the

Crane brothers, who ran the length of the Himalayas for Intermediate Technology. Inam and McCarron have trained on cycling expeditions to arctic Norway. Their joint adventures have taken them on a British Schools Exploring Society expedition to the Yukon in Canada and on climbing holidays in the Alps. (Photograph: Mark Aspland)

Sex and social classes 'inadequate'

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Half the school courses dealing with sexual and social issues are inadequate because teachers are not properly trained, Her Majesty's School Inspectors reported yesterday. The inspectors want extra staff training for personal and social education (PSE) courses and say parents and school governors are not being consulted enough in the preparation of the courses which must be improved if they are to be of value. In two-thirds of

the schools visited no consultation had taken place with the governing bodies.

The report underlines the importance of the school helping young people to "manage relationships, make choices when faced by dilemmas, moral, political or vocational. Teachers were seldom offered guidance on how to handle sensitive or controversial aspects of courses".

Many courses would have

been considerably improved had they been monitored and evaluated more thoroughly.

The report criticizes head teachers for giving other courses priority. "It should be a major priority for heads to ensure that PSE courses are run effectively".

A Survey of Personal and Social Education in some Secondary Schools (Publications Despatch Centre, Honeypot Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex. HA7 1AZ).

Tourist total falls after 1987 record

By John Spicer and Shona Crawford Poole

More people came to Britain for their holidays last year, spending more money and creating more jobs than ever before.

However, the number of American visitors — who spend more than twice as much per visit as tourists from Europe — fell sharply earlier this year, with European visitors showing a smaller fall.

Last year Britain was still "in the red" over foreign holidays and business trips. The record of foreign trips to Britain was matched by the British, who took a record number of holidays abroad and spent a total of £7,300 million. By comparison, foreign visitors and businessmen spent £5,200 million in the UK.

Official figures released yesterday show that American visitors to Britain this May were down 13 per cent, although trade sources said the drop may have been as much as 30 per cent.

Mr John Lee, Minister for Tourism, said yesterday the figures had been expected, given the dollar exchange rate movements.

The Department of Employment's figures are based on the much criticized Incoming Passenger Survey (IPS), which shows that 6 per cent fewer visitors from western Europe arrived in May. The total number of arrivals that month was 1,210,000, a drop of 7 per cent on 1987.

Mrs Pat Hansen, chairman of the British Incoming Tour Operators' Association (BITOA), said a recent association workshop of tourist interests had calculated that the number of Americans in Britain now was at least 20 per cent down on the same time last year. "The drop may be as much as 30 per cent", she said.

However, the department and the British Tourist Authority are still forecasting a rise in total numbers of American visitors by the end

of the year. Mr Lee said: "1988 should still be a good year".

The drop in visitors from Europe is blamed on the ferry strike earlier in the year.

The Society of West End Theatres denied yesterday that the drop in American visitors to London accounted for the failure of the first production at Mr Jeffrey Archer's theatre, the Playhouse, as its manager claimed on Tuesday.

"Overseas visitors make up about 37 per cent of West End theatre audiences on a year-round basis, but European visitors are an important element in that figure", the society said.

Government statistics for 1987 show that British holidaymakers and businessmen made 27,400,000 trips overseas last year, a 10 per cent increase on 1986. Spending was 19 per cent above 1986, the highest level ever.

A record 15,400,000 trips were made by overseas visitors to the UK last year, an 11 per cent increase over 1986 and 7 per cent more than the previous record year of 1985. In real terms the total increase in spending was 6 per cent.

The statistics show that to cope with the tourist boom, the number of people working in tourism-related industries grew last year by 3 per cent to 1,400,000.

On average, US tourists stayed 11 days and spent £45.90 a day, or £502.90 on each trip. By contrast, visitors from EEC countries stayed nine days and spent £27.20 a day, or £245.80 in total.

The Americans made up 18 per cent of total visitors, followed by the French (13 per cent), West Germans (11 per cent), Irish (7 per cent) and Dutch (6 per cent).

London was still the most popular place for visitors. About 40 per cent of the total number of nights spent in the UK were spent in the capital.

Trident delayed as strike goes on

By Peter Davenport and Martin Fletcher

Britain's Trident nuclear submarine programme was further delayed yesterday when shipyard workers who have been on strike for two months rejected a formula to end the dispute over fixed summer holidays.

A solution to the increasingly bitter dispute had been worked out in two days of talks between the national negotiating committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and senior management of the VSEL yard at Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

However, shop stewards representing the 13,000 workers turned down the agreement said that, at a mass meeting in the town, the strikers had voted 4-1 on a show of hands against the offer. Company officials called for a secret ballot.

The strike, which began on June 8, is centred on the company's plans to reintroduce fixed summer holidays to improve productivity.

Under the agreement worked out in national talks, the fixed holiday would have been phased in over the next three years in return for extra days-off and a jump sum payment of £200 for each worker. VSEL is the biggest

employer in Barrow. All work on the yard's £1 billion submarine building programme, which includes the first two Trident vessels, HMS Vanguard and HMS Victoria, is at a standstill.

Trident gained fresh support on the political front yesterday when Dr David Owen's Social Democratic Party accepted that it was now the only viable replacement for Polaris. Mr John Cartwright, SDP defence spokesman, said Britain should be prepared to reduce the number of warheads it carried in response to further disarmament agreements.

Launching a policy document, *Deterrence: The Role of Britain, Europe and the Atlantic Alliance*, Mr Cartwright called for a fundamental review of Britain's other defence commitments in consultation with its European Nato allies.

Britain should not be afraid of reducing some of its defence roles to concentrate on those that it was agreed it could perform best, Mr Cartwright said. He suggested this could, for example, involve an enhanced naval role and a reduced British Army on the Rhine. "We cannot go on assuming that each country can do everything", he said.

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The above statements are taken from Sir Bryan Nicholson's first annual report as Chairman of the Post Office. For your copy of the Post Office annual report and accounts 1987-88, write to: Report 88, Freeport, London SW1X 1EE.



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Angola and Cuba condemn Botha disclosures as South Africans defy call-up

Geneva delegations take exception to Pretoria's tactics

From Michael Hornsby in Johannesburg and Alan McGregor in Geneva

The South African Foreign Minister, Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, yesterday claimed to have received no indication that Pretoria's proposals for a peace settlement in Angola and Namibia had been rejected, despite a Cuban denunciation of the proposals as preposterous and unrealistic.

He said that Mr Neil van Heerden, leader of the South African delegation to the American-mediated talks with Angola and Cuba in Geneva, had told him that discussions were continuing.

Mr Botha announced the proposals in Pretoria on Tuesday night at a press conference to which only a few journalists were invited.

The Angolan and Cuban delegations in Geneva accused South Africa of breaking the confidentiality that had been observed — by agreement — at the previous rounds in London, Cairo and New York.

Their objections appeared to be shared by the American chairman and mediator, Dr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. Asked whether he regarded the disclosure as damaging to the negotiations, Dr Crocker said: "I wouldn't comment on that."

Mr Botha said he wanted to go on the record to correct misleading "leaks" in Geneva about the South African position.

No one in Geneva, however, was aware of any such "leaks". Observers in South Africa saw Mr Botha's move as intended either to sabotage the negotiations by setting public preconceptions which the Cubans or Angolans would

be unlikely to accept, or to humiliate the other side into an agreement on terms favourable to Pretoria.

Mr Botha has gone further than ever before in proposing that UN Resolution 435, which provides for Namibia's transition to independence over seven months, should come into effect from November.

He said that the South African proposals were "nothing more than a dishonourable capitulation" which would lead inexorably to black majority rule in Namibia and South Africa.

In Geneva Mr Venancio de Moura, the Angolan Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, said the public disclosure was obviously a tactic "showing South Africa's bad faith and lack of seriousness".

Conditions for implementing the UN resolution must, he said, include withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and the cessation of the assistance given to the Unita guerrillas.

The Cuban delegation emphasized that Pretoria could not present cessation of Angola's aid to the ANC as a precondition for Namibian independence — nor could it expect Angola to restrict the activities of the South West Africa People's Organization.

The Angolan and Cuban representatives said that the negotiations "to achieve a just and lasting peace for South West Africa" would continue.

They said their own proposals on dates for the various measures necessary for ending hostilities would be tabled "but, out of respect for the negotiating process" not proclaimed publicly now.

The session, which began on Tuesday, was scheduled to last three days but may be extended through tomorrow. The negotiators are trying to translate into detailed treaty provisions the 14 principles for a peaceful settlement agreed when they met last month in New York.

and America and are supported by South African troops.

Mr Botha's proposals were attacked by South Africa's far-right Conservative Party as "nothing more than a dishonourable capitulation" which would lead inexorably to black majority rule in Namibia and South Africa.

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Mr Glenn Goosen speaking on behalf of 44 conscientious objectors in Cape Town who said yesterday they would refuse compulsory service in the SADF.

Young whites vow mass draft defiance

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg

In the biggest public mass defiance of military conscription South Africa has seen, 143 young whites yesterday risked prosecution and prison sentences by announcing that they were not prepared to serve in the South African Defence Force.

About 60 of the draft refusers called a press conference at the University of the Witwatersrand here to make their decision known. They said that they had been inspired by the "brave stand" of David Brace, aged 25, a graduate who last month became the first white to be sentenced to six years' jail for conscientious objection.

It has long been suspected that the scale of draft evasion among young whites is much more serious than the authorities are prepared to admit, but it has been difficult to gauge its extent because those involved have been fearful of disclosing their intentions.

The press conference here was one of about half a dozen throughout the country. The precise venues were kept secret until the last minute to minimize the risk of intervention by security police.

Mr Wilhelm Liebenberg, aged 35, a lecturer in Afrikaans and Dutch, told the meeting here that 105 of the 143 young men who had signed a "joint statement of conscience" proclaiming their refusal to serve had done so in military service and so were liable to the maximum six years' imprisonment unless they chose to go into exile.

In an emergency, the authorities can call on about 317,000 white reservists in addition to the estimated 105,400 men of the South African Defence Force. Only about 42,000 SADF members are career soldiers; the rest are young white conscripts doing national service. This heavy reliance on conscripts and reservists helps to explain why the military authorities treat draft evasion as a serious offence.

The 143 draft refusers said: "We believe that the SADF helps to uphold

the system of apartheid. We are particularly concerned about its presence in Angola, its occupation of Namibia, its ongoing destabilization of frontline states, and its role in South Africa's black townships. We do not see serving in the SADF as a way of contributing to peace in our country.

"We make this decision in the realization that there are hundreds of other South Africans who have decided not to serve in the SADF. Our country is being drained of the skills and resources of many of these people because it does not provide for adequate alternatives to military service."

It is possible to ask to be assigned to a non-combatant position in the SADF, or to apply to be allowed to do "alternative service", usually low-paid welfare work for six years — half as long again as compulsory military service. But this option is open only to those who object to service on narrowly-defined religious grounds.

Nearly all of the 143 draft refusers are undergraduates or graduates, aged

between 18 and 35. They are predominantly English-speaking, but include a fair number of young Afrikaners.

A turning point for many young whites came in 1984, when the SADF began to be used on a large scale to quell unrest in black townships. Mr Stephen Louw, aged 27, said in recalling his own service: "The most frightening thing was the total lack of respect shown by the SADF for the civilian population in the townships."

He did his basic service in 1984 and 1985, mainly in Eastern Cape townships, the scene of widespread unrest at that time. Mr Louw added: "On one occasion I was forced to drive an armoured vehicle into a crowd of blacks leaving a church, in order to provoke them into throwing stones."

A recent survey at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, in the Eastern Cape, found that 28 per cent of students were considering emigration to avoid conscription, and that another 28 per cent cited conscription as one reason for thinking of going abroad.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

US crew blamed in Airbus tragedy

Washington — The shooting-down last month of an Iranian Airbus with the loss of 290 lives resulted from crew error arising from the stress of being in combat for the first time, a US military inquiry has found (Christopher Thomas writes).

The inquiry report, by Rear Admiral William Fogarty, has not been released but was leaked widely yesterday. It is understood to confirm that no malfunction was found in the radar technology on the Vincennes, the US Navy ship which shot down the aircraft, but that in the stress of battle radar operators convinced themselves that it planned to attack.

They misinterpreted what they saw on screen, and the misinterpretations were passed on to Captain Will Rogers, leading him to conclude that his ship was in imminent danger. A Congressional sub-committee began hearings yesterday into compensation for passengers' relations.

US airbase to close

Athens — Greece announced yesterday that it has decided to close down the United States Air Force base at Hellenikon, the international airport of Athens, and by far the most conspicuous of the four principal American military installations in this country (Mario Modiano writes).

The move comes at a time of increasing strains in US-Greek relations over the bases issue. Greece last month served formal notice that the current bases agreement would be terminated in December. It is, however, negotiating a new defence agreement, prolonging the US military presence on condition that the terms would "serve the paramount national interests of Greece". But the Government certainly wants to close the Hellenikon base, which it has described as a "political eyesore", even if a new agreement is reached.

Reagan defence veto

Washington — President Reagan vetoed a \$299.5 billion (£175.4 billion) defence authorization Bill yesterday, saying it would weaken the US militarily and would place in jeopardy the country's diplomatic and strategic advances (Mohsin Ali writes).

"It would endanger progress in arms negotiations by giving away our negotiating leverage without getting a single thing in return from the Soviets," he said, adding that the Bill would threaten his Strategic Defence Initiative. A two-thirds vote of the House of Representatives and the Senate can override the veto. The Bill was passed by a margin of more than two-thirds in the Senate, but not in the lower chamber. Democrats claimed that the action was intended to benefit Vice-President George Bush's election campaign.

Hostage MP killed

Nairobi — A member of the Ugandan Government was killed and another wounded when government troops stormed a rebel camp in the north-east of the country, where the two had been held for eight months since arriving for secret peace talks (Andrew Buckoke writes).

According to reports reaching here yesterday, Mr Robert Ekinu, the Deputy Minister of Transport, was killed and Mr Stanley Okurut, the Minister of Labour, was wounded when the soldiers overran the camp on Tuesday near the north-eastern town of Soroti. Rebels of the Uganda People's Army kidnapped the two in December, with another deputy minister, Mr Apotu Okol, who escaped.

Solzhenitsyn hailed

Moscow (Reuters) — A Moscow weekly yesterday hailed Alexander Solzhenitsyn, sent into exile in 1974, as author of one of the great classics of Russian literature. *Moscow News* said that Solzhenitsyn's *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, a novella on labour camp life under Stalin published in 1962, was "an outstanding event in (Soviet) literary, moral and spiritual life".

But the literary critic, Lev Voskresensky, in a full-page article on the 66-page work, said that it was too early to judge Solzhenitsyn's overall work or his views. "I can affirm one thing that I believe the past 25 years has proved — *One Day* is among the greatest landmark achievements in our country's literature," he wrote.

Thatcher pledges Australia fresh ties with Britain

From Robin Oakley, Melbourne

The Prime Minister yesterday renewed her pledge to fight protectionism in all its guises and promised Australia a new partnership with Britain.

She has not only invited to London next year the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, but has asked him to bring with him a group of senior ministers to meet their counterparts and cement a new working relationship.

In speeches in Canberra and Melbourne, Mrs Thatcher emphasized her belief that while Britain's economic future lies with Europe and that its closest ally in America there remains a tie of friendship with Australia which is closer than either of those relationships.

Calling for a stronger relationship with Australia, she said: "We want to step up our contacts at every level... let's do it as two strong, proud, independent, successful nations, each with its own specific contribution to make."

Mrs Thatcher promised the Australians that she would not allow the launch of the Single European Market in 1992 to become the occasion for setting greater barriers against countries outside the EEC.

And she spelt out the deal Britain hopes for in return, saying: "Britain can provide a springboard for Australia into that market, and we hope that our trade and investment with you will help us to do better in the great markets of the Pacific."

The Prime Minister, the first guest in Australia's new Parliament building in Canberra, took part in the first meetings in the Prime Minister's new office and the Cabinet room, and met Mr Hawke for 45 minutes.

Mrs Thatcher suggested that Britain would consider rene-

Hezbollah hints ordeal of British hostages may be nearing an end

From Robert Fisk, west Beirut

The hostage rumour mill is back at work in west Beirut now that the Iranians have said for peace in the Gulf War. Lebanese newspapers are variously predicting the imminent release of an American hostage or of two British captives, together with a West German who was kidnapped in January last year.

Anonymous "sources" are invariably quoted for this information, but the reports all share one authentic element: increasing hints from within the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) movement, which holds most of the hostages, that the ordeal of their Western prisoners may soon be over.

Although Sheikh Muhammad Fadallah, one of Hezbollah's spiritual leaders, says that he refused to meet the Anglican Bishop of Cyprus during his visit to Lebanon, he is repeating — almost daily — his hopes for the hostages' release.

The sheikh may well be preparing the ground among Beirut's Shia Muslims for just such an event, and it is significant that he is also urging the Americans to release the frozen Iranian assets which Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Iranian military leader, has been demanding.

Amid widespread belief in west Beirut that the Americans have been holding firm, this time involving the Algerians, there has come, too, a report that Iranian Revolutionary Guards in the

Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon, who arrived there before the 1982 Israeli invasion, are preparing to go home.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *al-Uhda*, which is to be fair has never been known for its depth or its accuracy, has carried a short but detailed report to this effect, noting that Iranian Revolutionary Guards at Basleik may already have closed down part of their headquarters.

It was the Beirut paper *al-Anwar* which said yesterday that two Britons and a German may be freed "in a short while". Although it did not identify the three, they are presumably Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's missing envoy, John McCarthy, the British cameraman abducted in 1986, and

Herr Rudolf Cordes, who was kidnapped last year.

The paper, this time quoting a private "newspaper", suggested that the two Hamas brothers, both of whom are imprisoned in Germany and one of whom is on trial for hijacking the TWA airliner to Beirut in 1985, would be freed in return for Herr Cordes.

In Beirut, Hezbollah members are again mounting checkpoints within the southern suburbs of the city, usually within sight of Syrian military positions.

The purpose of such activities is not clear, though it may merely be an attempt to prove that they still have some quasi-legitimate authority in the region which they controlled until the Syrian Army entered the suburbs in June.

UN presses Iraq to soften demands

From Charles Bremner, New York

Frustrated diplomats struggled yesterday to persuade Iraq to soften demands that have blocked talks in New York on a Gulf War ceasefire, while officials grew increasingly doubtful about Baghdad's willingness to end the eight-year conflict with Iran.

One senior envoy commented that "if the Iraqis really do want to continue the war and get the best advantage they can, then there's nothing the UN can do about it".

Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, meanwhile sat aloof in his country's Manhattan mission for a fifth day. Diplomats revealed yesterday that he refused on Friday to accept from Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, a copy of his plan for arranging a

ceasefire. Señor Pérez de Cuéllar has in effect snubbed the Iraqi minister since then, while continuing intensive talks with Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, and with ambassadors of the major powers on the Security Council.

The Secretary-General has said that he will draw up plans for an observer force and troop withdrawals after receiving a report today or tomorrow from a military team which returned from the Gulf yesterday. A ceasefire date would however be meaningless without Baghdad's agreement to stop fighting.

Iraq is insisting on full "face-to-face" peace talks before it will agree to set the date for a halt to hostilities. Baghdad is accusing Iran of simply trying to buy a temporary respite after a series of defeats at the hands of Iraqi troops.

Iran, in an extraordinary reversal of its long disdain for the UN, says it is eager to comply with Security Council Resolution 598, which called a year ago for a ceasefire, and has dropped its earlier insistence on the prior appointment of a panel to attribute blame for the war.

The New York discussions erupted into public bickering on Tuesday, when a senior Iraqi official issued an angry statement warning Señor Pérez de Cuéllar that "Iraq shall never accept a ceasefire without Iran's prior commitment to a comprehensive peace settlement."

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar and

the Security Council are now trying to devise a compromise that would involve no loss of face for Iraq. His latest plan would provide for opening direct talks, as demanded by Baghdad, when a truce takes effect or immediately after. If the New York peace effort breaks down no ceasefire could be enforced.

● Fighting continues: The fading prospects in New York were reflected by fresh fighting yesterday after a lull earlier in the week (Andrew McEwen writes). Iran reported that "industrial-labour units" in the southern province of Bushehr and on similar sites in Khuzestan province. Iran, the Iranian official news agency, said that one of the Iraqi jets was shot down.

No love lost as Interpol digs into Aphrodite's abode

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles



J. Paul Getty, founder of the controversial museum.

The world's richest museum, the J. Paul Getty, is this week locked in controversy as Interpol and the Los Angeles police investigate its acquisition of a rare 2,400-year-old statue which some believe may have been smuggled out of Sicily illegally in the mid-1970s.

The museum, in Malibu, triumphantly revealed its latest gain — a representation of Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love — only last week. But now the statue is the focus of an international inquiry which apparently centres on growing rumours of grave-robbing in the region where the work is said to have originated.

The limestone and marble statue, believed to date from 420 BC, was unknown in art circles before the museum's announcement on Thursday. Now Getty officials, citing museum policy, are refusing to discuss where they bought the statue or how much they paid for it.

The museum director, Mr John Walsh, insists that all the government documentation procedures have been followed scrupulously and said that the purchase was made public only after written confirmation was received from Italy that there were no pending claims of theft against the piece.

But Interpol has this week asked the Los Angeles police to investigate further to determine how the statue came into the Getty's possession.

Detective William Martin, of the Los Angeles art fraud squad, said:

"We are making an inquiry on behalf of Interpol." He confirmed plans to visit the museum to talk to Mr Walsh.

Major Luigi Baccell, commander of the carabinieri unit responsible for looking after Italy's art treasures, told *The Los Angeles Times*: "It is too early to know whether the statue came from Italy."

"I'm looking for people who knew that the statue was in Sicily. It probably comes from there, but no one can say for certain."

Fears that the statue might have been smuggled out of Italy and offered on the open art market were raised by Dr Grazia Fiorentini, the Italian Government's director of antiquities in Agrigento, Sicily.

The statue could have come from Morgantina, a site in eastern Sicily that has been excavated by American

and Italian archaeologists since its discovery in 1955 by a team from Princeton.

The site is located in Sicily's Enna province. Artefacts spanning the centuries from ancient Greece to the late Roman Empire have been recovered at Morgantina.

Officials say that it was Professor Malcolm Bell, an archaeologist from the University of Virginia who is excavation director at Morgantina, who first alerted Italian officials to the acquisition by the Getty. He told *The Los Angeles Times*: "I think the Getty tried to find out if the statue was stolen."

Professor Bell described the work as magnificent. He added: "Stylistically, it is Greek-Italian, characteristic of southern Italy in the fifth century (BC). It belongs in Italy."

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Shultz hints at US aid for Alfonsín's debt crisis reforms

From Michael Llanos, Buenos Aires

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, who is in Argentina for talks on the economy and other issues, has hinted that Washington will help the country to cope with its severe debt crisis by providing a new loan.

His hint followed the unveiling by President Alfonsín's Government of an austerity program intended to curb inflation which is running at more than 20 per cent a month, through public sector spending cuts.

Key measures in the Government's reform programme are wage-price controls, a two-tiered exchange rate discriminating against foreign exports, a 10 per cent currency devaluation and state cuts in personnel and fringe benefits.

But, yesterday Argentina's financial media and businessmen criticized the package as "improvised", pointing to the lack of co-ordination among government officials and the announcement of a three-day bank holiday before details had been completed.

Argentina has been negotiating a bridging loan of \$500 million (about £295 million) with Washington that would help Buenos Aires pay service charges on its \$55 billion foreign debt, according to banking sources. A US official told journalists that Mr Shultz said in an interview recorded for US television it appeared that the negotiations were going well.

The official said: "He will be saying that he believed that there had been good discussions between the Argentine and our Treasury and Federal Reserve and that he thought that those discussions would be productive and fruitful."

US officials travelling with Mr Shultz said that the strain on Argentina as it struggled to service its debts was severe and worrying. During his visit he has offered at several points to help Argentina with its economic problems in any way he could.

The Secretary of State, on a nine-nation Latin American tour, met President Alfonsín,

the Foreign Minister, Señor Dante Caputo, the Economic Minister, Señor Juan Sourrouille, and senior officials to discuss economics, drug interdiction and other issues.

He praised Argentina repeatedly for its return to democracy after years of military rule following the 1982 Falklands war, describing the country as a stirring example to the world.

Urging economic reform, Mr Shultz said: "Nothing consolidates political freedom as much as economic well-being, which needs, in turn,

loan for 1988, but the IMF is not expected to deliver funds for at least a month — hence the need for a bridging loan from the US.

The freeze on prices and salaries came after these were increased by 30 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. Private analysts said that the increases, which include fuel and transport prices, could push August inflation close to 30 per cent — the highest level since the hyper-inflation of April 1976. Meat prices rose by 20 per cent in the first two days of August alone.

The July cost of living is expected to top 24 per cent, the highest level since the Plan Austral of June 1985.

The new measures hold none of the initial promise of the Plan Austral and instead resemble policies announced in October, which achieved little.

The package was welcomed by the Governor of Córdoba province, Señor Eduardo Angeloz, who, as the presidential candidate of the ruling Radical Party in next year's election, is the man who has the most to win or lose from the policy.

But business groups complained that they were not consulted about the package and were going along with the Government only grudgingly. Moreover, Peronist politicians and unionists were downright hostile and even some senior Radicals expressed doubt.

Señor Jesus Rodriguez, a left-wing Radical deputy, welcomed measures aimed at creating economic stability but added: "I only hope that it's not just an electoral ploy."

Señor Guido Di Tella, a Peronist economist, said the Plan Austral had held promise, "but today the economic team is discredited. The package is neither coherent or complete."

Señor Carlos Lacerza, a former Industry Secretary in the Alfonsín administration, gave a warning that "the conditions are not the same as those when the Plan Austral was launched."



Señor Alfonsín: Seeking a \$295 million bridging loan.

strong macroeconomic policies and long-term structural reform."

Mr Shultz also upheld the importance of keeping international financial channels open to foreign debtors such as Argentina.

The Government has so far asked business groups to agree to monthly price increases of 4 per cent, offering in exchange easier access to capital imports and cuts in state spending.

Officials said that the package would reduce the deficit by \$2.1 billion, or 2.5 per cent of gross domestic product. The Government had earlier promised the International Monetary Fund that it would reduce the deficit from 7 per cent of GDP last year to 3.9 per cent in 1988.

The Government this week redoubled efforts to negotiate a \$1.2 billion IMF standby

Sikhs salute Delhi appeal decision



Members of the family of Mr Balbir Singh raising their hands in victory after he was set free by the Supreme Court in Delhi.

Court frees Gandhi 'assassin'

Delhi (AP) — Death sentences on two Sikhs convicted of the assassination in October 1984 of Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, were upheld by India's Supreme Court yesterday, but a third conviction was overturned.

The three judges rejected appeals by PC Satwant Singh, who was convicted of the killing, and by Kehar Singh, a government official found guilty of conspiracy, after a six-month review of the case.

The conviction of police sub-inspector Balbir Singh, who was charged with conspiracy in the assassination, was reversed for lack of evidence.

Justice G.L. Oza, the senior judge on the panel, said in his 75-page ruling: "So far as this accused is concerned, there is no evidence at all on the basis of which his conviction could be justified. He is therefore entitled to be acquitted."

Mrs Gandhi was assassinated at her home by two of her Sikh bodyguards, Satwant Singh and Beant Singh, apparently in revenge for an army

raid she had ordered four months before to put down the Sikh revolt in Punjab.

Beant Singh was killed and Satwant Singh injured in a gun battle with other security men minutes after the killing.

Kehar Singh, an uncle of Beant Singh, was arrested on November 30, 1984, and Mr Balbir Singh, who was posted on guard duty at the Prime Minister's residence, was held three days later.

The judges announced their decision to a packed courtroom ringed by policemen with automatic rifles. Security measures aimed at deterring attacks by Sikh guerrillas included frisking court spectators and checks with a metal detector.

The three defendants, who are held in Delhi central jail, were not present for the ruling. Under Indian law, defendants are brought to their trials but are represented by counsel during appeals.

Mr Swarn Singh, the brother of Mr Balbir Singh, said of the decision: "I am

very pleased with the judgement. They caught an innocent man, but now justice has been done."

A court sentenced the three to death by hanging in January.

Delhi — Samajwadi Janata Dal, the new Indian opposition party, has been criticized by Mr Chandra Shekhar, the former Janata president, and Mr H.N. Bhargava, the leader of Lok Dal, for having named its office bearers while still discussing a merger with the Janata, Lok Dal, Congress (S) and Jan Morcha parties.

1986. The sentences were upheld by the High Court in Delhi the following December, and the appeals began in the Supreme Court in February this year.

On the question of sentence, Justice Oza said: "The manner in which the (Mrs Gandhi) was mercilessly attacked ... repels any consideration of reduction of sentence."

"In this view of the matter, even the conspirator who

inspired the persons who actually acted does not deserve any leniency in the matter of sentence."

The Indian Supreme Court is the final court of appeal, but the two condemned men are entitled to seek a review by the same judges and to file a petition for mercy to President Venkataraman.

The authorities called Mrs Gandhi's murder an act of revenge for her ordering a raid in June 1984 on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikh religion's holiest shrine. More than 1,200 people, most of them Sikhs, died in the action, which was aimed at countering separatist Sikh militants using the temple as a base.

Radical members of the Sikh community have been agitating for an independent Sikh state since 1982, claiming discrimination by the majority Hindus.

Mrs Gandhi's son, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who succeeded her as Prime Minister, still faces a persistent Sikh revolt in Punjab.

Brazil's foreign firms in \$2m call

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

Multinational corporations, accustomed to keeping a low profile, have cast aside their modesty and launched an aggressive, eleven-hour campaign to strike from Brazil's Constitution, now nearing completion in the Constituent Assembly, what they call "anti-foreign" clauses.

Executives from 16 foreign companies have prepared a \$2 million (£1.2 million) publicity campaign to sing the praises of foreign capital and to explain its contribution to national development.

Some businessmen are lobbying delegates to the assembly, calling on government ministers and even taking their plea directly to President Sarney.

Mr William Jackson, president of Easo Brasileira, a subsidiary of the US Exxon Corporation, said: "Multinationals are getting together for the first time and speaking out as a group. Part of the problem we faced has been a lack of co-ordinated effort."

But in a country only now emerging from a lengthy authoritarian rule, high-powered political lobbies are still viewed with suspicion.

"Before, under the military, this was a lot easier," Mr Jackson said. "You sent your colonel to speak to their colonel, and the matter was usually resolved. Now, there are 559 legislators. Power is more dispersed."

In the next few weeks, the 559 delegates will vote on the Constitution. No amendments may be presented but Articles may be struck out.

Foreign companies are worried about key paragraphs that they claim would restrict or bar foreign capital from several areas. They would like to excise Articles which ban risk contracts for oil exploration, tighten rules for joint ventures, nationalize mineral rights and grant local companies preference in supplying the Government.

The minerals Article would force mining companies, such as British Petroleum, to give control of their operations to a Brazilian firm.

Eleven die as rain hits north of Spain

Infesta, Spain (Reuters) — Four people died in a train accident and seven others were killed in car crashes as heavy rain hit northern Spain.

Rescuers recovered four bodies from the wreckage of a local train derailed after running into a landslide near Infesta, 25 miles east of Oviedo. Another 13 passengers, including a foreign woman, were hurt, some of them seriously.

Five people died when a car hit a motorway bridge near San Sebastián and two others were killed near Lasarte.

Revised toll

Vienna (AP) — The Bulgarian party newspaper said that at least 23 people on board a YAK-40 aircraft, and not 37 as previously stated, were killed after it crashed on take-off into a river bed near Sofia airport. It had been due to fly to the Black Sea coast.

Tamils ejected

Delhi (Reuters) — India repatriated 20,001 Tamil refugees out of a total of 134,043 who fled from Sri Lanka after ethnic riots in 1983. Mr Natwar Singh, the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, told Parliament.

Tragic match

Islamabad (Reuters) — A Pakistani wedding in Quetta ended in tragedy when a guest lost control of the rifle he was firing into the air in celebration and killed four guests.

Fatal flights

Ascoli Piceno, Italy (AP) — A West German and an Italian were killed when they collided while hang-gliding over the Apennine area of Forca di Presta in central Italy.

Sole party

Niamey, Niger (AP) — President Saibou of Niger announced the creation of a new ruling party which will be the only legal political organization in the West African state.

Rail death

Brussels (Reuters) — A man aged 82 fled a blaze at his home in Aalst, wandered on to a railway line near by, and was killed by a train.

Crewmen safe

Sydney — Six Filipino crewmen were picked up after Western Australia four weeks after their ship, the Singai, disappeared without trace.

Crackdown in Burma

Students march for democracy after new leader silences critics

From Neil Kelly in Bangkok and Anatol Lieven in London

The declaration of martial law in Burma is U Sein Lwin's swift and ruthless response to the public attacks on him as Burma's new leader. Students marched through the streets of Rangoon yesterday, shouting demands for democracy.

On Monday about 500 students and some Buddhist monks are reported to have demonstrated at the Shwedagon pagoda in Rangoon, Burma's holiest shrine. Anti-government groups led by students have called for nationwide strikes — with what success is not yet clear.

U Sein Lwin's action comes after the announcement on Monday of the arrest of 11 critics of the Government, including retired General Aung Gyi, who wrote public letters to the former leader, General Ne Win, criticizing his government's record. The Associated Press correspondent in Rangoon, U Sein Win, was also arrested. Amnesty International says that the true figure for those arrested may be 25.

Rangoon-based diplomats visiting Thailand say that the dissidents' call for a strike has been made in leaflets circulating in Rangoon and other parts of the country.

The strike will test the dissidents' strength and determination, which appears to have grown during the worsening unrest and economic

problems. The students are in the forefront of the protests, but they have growing support from many Burmese.

The main target is U Sein Lwin, whose responsibility for brutal police activities has made him the most hated politician in Burma. The leaflets refer to him as "the butcher of Rangoon" and say

in his resignation speech on July 23 but rejected by U Sein Lwin and party delegates. The 2.5 million members of the Socialist Programme Party had no intention of surrendering their monopoly of privilege and power, they say.

Dissidents in Rangoon, Mandalay and Moulmein have sent representatives to ethnic rebel groups on the Thai border who are fighting for autonomy. They are asking the rebels to initiate military action against the Burmese Army to coincide with civilian demonstrations.

Rebel officials refused to say how they will respond to the request; nor is it clear how the majority Burman population as a whole will react.

On Tuesday, a Thai border patrol officer said that heavy fighting had been continuing since last week near the border in the coastal strip extending south of Moulmein. He said that insurgents from the Mon and Karen ethnic groups have been attacking government positions.

Although the Government has driven the rebels out of the interior to the edges of Burma, it has little control over the border. Most of the trade coming across the borders is illicit but vital for the Burmese people, in view of the extreme and growing shortage of essential goods.

U Sein Lwin has promised

reforms to liberalize the economy and to improve the living standards of the deprived people. On Tuesday, in a speech to a special meeting of officials and judges, he called for a clean-up of the judicial system, and told judges that they must act independently in the administration of justice.

Burmese dissidents have described this as a joke, in view of what they see as U Sein Lwin's personal record of repression.

U Sein Lwin also called for a purge of corrupt and incompetent officials and the closing of inefficient state factories. He appeared, however, to be taking the line that there is nothing wrong with the "Burmese Socialist" system as a whole, only with individuals.

In view of this, and of the chronic economic incompetence shown by the Burmese administration in the past, Western analysts are not hopeful that Burma's desperate economic situation can be improved.

Diplomats in Rangoon also say that it would be hard to find anyone who believes that anything will change for the better. Even if the will were there, they said that Burma does not possess enough competent people to implement the reforms. All the talented people have gone to the United States, Thailand, Australia and Britain.



U Sein Lwin: Trying to crush student-led national strike.

that the world blames him, as the man in charge of the riot police, for the massacre of more than 200 people in riots earlier this year.

The leaflets also call for a return to democracy and a multi-party political system, suggested by General Ne Win

Harare pledges forces to defend Limpopo rail link

From Jan Raath, Harare

Zimbabwe has agreed to provide a second military corridor in Mozambique, to protect from guerrilla attack its most important route to the sea. Reopening the rail link to Maputo, will free the land-locked frontline state from dependence on South African ports.

Defence experts estimate that about 10,000 men will be needed to defend the 331-mile Limpopo corridor to the Mozambique capital against rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR).

Zimbabwe already deploys a similar number along the 195-mile Beira corridor, linking eastern Zimbabwe to the port of Beira.

The reopening of the Limpopo route is a key to the economy of the region, providing a cheap, swift route to the sea and enabling the frontline states to avoid the vulnerability of having to ship goods through a hostile South Africa. Transport experts say that the line could easily handle all the traffic of Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Malawi.

The Limpopo line, running for 331 miles from the south-eastern border of Zimbabwe through an almost uninterrupted stretch of flat, guerrilla-dominated bush to the southern port of Maputo, was closed in 1984 after repeated attacks by the MNR and lack of maintenance. It is now being repaired and rebuilt at a cost of £127 million.

A Zimbabwean delegate at a donors' conference in Maputo

last week assured Western delegates that Zimbabwe would "secure the Limpopo corridor through its own military forces". Western diplomatic sources told *The Times*.

Independent sources said that during a meeting in May, President Mugabe of Zimbabwe

already being carried out, the sources said.

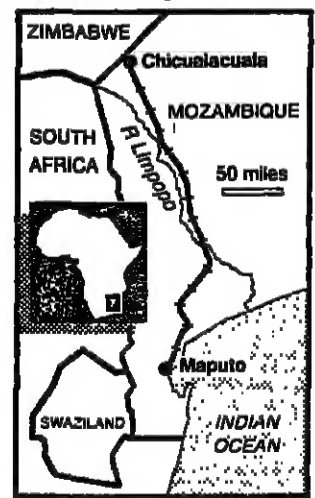
Zimbabwean airborne special forces are operating against the MNR around Chokwe, the headquarters of Mozambique's Eighth Battalion, and the new commitment will mean about half of Zimbabwe's 42,000-man army will be in Mozambique. The poorly-equipped and ill-trained Mozambique forces are regarded as inadequate.

Britain last year became the first country to back the rehabilitation of the Limpopo route with a £14 million grant for the first phase of the operation to repair the worst sections of track.

In Maputo last week, £35 million was pledged at the donors' conference by Canada, West Germany and the United States for the much more comprehensive second phase. Railway authorities in Mozambique and Zimbabwe are anxiously waiting to see how Britain's promise of "continuing commitment" to the line materializes.

Zimbabwe railway engineering crews completed rebuilding of the first 40 miles of twisted track from the Zimbabwe border in April, and have pressed ahead, despite lack of formal approval of donor financing, to about the 55th mile. Other crews are engaged in an emergency "patch and repair" operation on other bad sections further south, and limited traffic of 10,000 tonnes a month is expected to begin by the end of this year.

The sources said that Zimbabwe had undertaken to take control of the line from Chikucuala to Manhiça, 50 miles north of Maputo. Zimbabwean forces are to be based at Chokwe, 95 miles north of Manhiça. The deployment is



Le Pen spoils French right's move to paper over cracks

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

With mastery and malign timing, M Jean-Marie Le Pen has ensured that leaders of the orthodox French right begin their annual summer holiday in a distinctly uneasy frame of mind.

No sooner had the conservatives and centrists emerged from last week's "summit" meeting in Paris with brave words about uniting against the Socialists in the hung parliament that followed June's general election than the president of the National Front stuck his oar in with a vengeance.

Despite his own failure to secure a seat in the National Assembly, where the party presence was reduced to one, M Le Pen understands perfectly how to exploit the divisions in the mainstream conservative camp.

It was abundantly clear at the summit meeting that the last thing

M Jacques Chirac, leading the Gaullist RPR, and M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, representing the French Democratic Union (UDF) leadership, wanted on the agenda was the sensitive issue of relations with the fractious "outsider" on their far right.

With this in mind, M Le Pen promptly called for the RPR and UDF to join his Front in alliance against the left in municipal elections due in the spring.

Why not put forward common candidates? he suggested innocently, as if scars left by the RPR's strategic deals with M Le Pen's party in the last campaign were not still fresh and raw.

It was a shrewd move, calculated to demonstrate that despite the best efforts of the RPR and UDF to paper over the cracks, the internal strains remain. The whole point of the summit meeting was to cobble

together a working agreement on how best to make life difficult for the Prime Minister, M Michel Rocard, in a National Assembly in which the Socialists find themselves a dozen seats short of an absolute majority.

The climate had seemed promising enough, with the Communists whose votes will be crucial to M Rocard — rumbling about turning on the trade union heat come autumn.

But even before M Le Pen's unwelcome intervention the communiques announcing the establishment of UDF/RPR working parties on important issues and moves to improve relations within Parliament seemed to some observers rather less than earth-shaking.

One key objective of the Paris meeting was to ensure that M Rocard will not be able to capture

many votes from the softer centre. But these are the very people who shy away from any thought of co-operation with the National Front, who remain deeply uneasy about those RPR hardliners murmuring about the importance of retaining "pragmatic" links with M Le Pen.

Even among Chirac loyalists the National Front leader's proposals sparked sharp reactions. One up-and-coming MP, M Nicolas Sarkozy, says that such an alliance would damage the RPR severely in the eyes of voters.

"There are a certain number of essential points, such as human rights and racism, on which we differ fundamentally," M Sarkozy said.

Interviewed this week by the newspaper *Le Quotidien de Paris*, M Sarkozy argued that the mainstream right had to "reconquer" the National Front electorate and

was already adapting to that challenge. He also had kind things to say about M Chirac, who had made his first important public appearance for weeks at the much-ballyhooed summit meeting.

The word on the political grapevine is that M Chirac is still suffering the shock of that crushing defeat by President Mitterrand in the presidential contest, swiftly followed by his resignation as Prime Minister.

He had invested so much of himself in the campaign — crisscrossing the nation for rousing speeches, shaking every hand and kissing babies galore — that the decisive rejection by voters who find him difficult to love was a fearful blow to his self-esteem.

If the communiques can be believed, the issue of leadership of the traditional right did not arise at the Paris meeting. Given the cut-

throat rivalries that resulted in a pair of conservative candidates running in the last two presidential campaigns, that can only leave the field open for further hostilities between a chastened M Chirac and the bouncy, born-again M Giscard d'Estaing, with the early money going on the latter.

Of course, there is always M Raymond Barre to reckon with: a president-in-waiting in the eyes of admirers in the centre, a scheming and unscrupulous wrecker to a good many others on the right.

To nobody's great surprise, he did not consider it worth trekking up to Paris from his holiday villa in Cap Ferrat for the meeting of the clans.

But his stance certainly does not mean he has dealt himself out of what promises to be yet another long, and potentially damaging, contest for the body and soul of the French right.

SPECTRUM

As the fifth Test begins, John Woodcock assesses the quality of the chairman of the English cricket team's selectors

The natural selector

For no inherent reason Peter May was born to be a very fine batsman. There were no blood lines to account for it. His father, who had flown Sopwith Camels in the First World War, ran the family contracting business in Reading; his mother was a useful tennis player. The family had not been bristling with cricketers.

Cricket, though, has been the thread running through May's life, bringing every distinction the game has to offer, including the presidency of MCC, and finding him today, as chairman of the England selectors, in the hot seat at the Oval. Despite having had, at times, to carry the England batting almost single-handed, and for all the criticism he has had to absorb since then while trying to put together a reputable England side, May looks, at 58, very much as he did when, 30 years ago last week, he was scoring a hundred against New Zealand at Headingley.

As a 13-year-old at Charterhouse he could already bat so well that Robert Birley, the headmaster, was asked what he thought about anyone so young playing for the First XI. He was against it. But May still had four years in the Charterhouse side, a good many of his runs being recorded by William Rees-Mogg, keeper of the scorebook and later of *The Times*.

National service came next, as Writer P.B.H. May (doing clerical work in the Navy); then Cambridge, where he read History and Economics, and for three years made runs against almost everyone except Oxford at Lord's. Could anything show any better how the cricket world has been turned upside down than the scorecard when Cambridge played the West Indians at Fenners in 1950? With the great Weekes and Worrell, as well as Ramadhin and Valentine in the West Indian side,

THE TIMES PROFILE

PETER MAY

Cambridge declared at 594 for four. Having gone to the wicket at 487 for two, May, a Freshman, made 44 not out. They played another game in those days.

It would have been stranger that the captaincy of Cambridge eluded May in his last year had it not gone instead to David Sheppard, now the Bishop of Liverpool. Both were already Test cricketers. It meant, though, that when May took over the England side from Lea Hutton in 1955 his only previous experience of captaincy had been at Charterhouse. He succeeded Stuart Surridge at the Oval in 1957, steering Surrey to the last two of their seven successive championships, and between 1955 and 1968 he led England at home and abroad without losing a series.

There came a setback in Australia in 1958-59, when May's star-studded side were badly beaten by fairly dubious means (the throwing controversy was then at its height), and by 1961 illness and the urge to make a living for himself in the City had brought his playing career to a close.

May's contemporaries pay him the compliment, almost to a man, of rating him as the best English batsman to have emerged since the last war. He was a fierce and wonderful driver of the ball and a veritable genius on the Oval pitches of those days, which were nothing like as good as they are now. Although impassive by nature, he had a ruthless streak as a run-maker. Having crashed the ball through midwicket, his ex-

pression would be half sardonic, half apologetic.

As a captain his successes had most of all to do with his own batting skill and the brilliance of the bowlers whom he commanded (Statham, Treisman, Laker, Lock, Wardle and Bailey). Tactically he was cautious. His loyalty to his players was paramount. He would never hear a word against them. "A good day for the boys" was his stock submission, from Port of Spain to Sydney, whether it had been or not. They liked him for this and knew exactly where they stood with him, and for his batting they had an awesome respect. Of England's captains of the last 50 years none was more single-minded. He kept his own company a great deal, turning a blind eye to, or perhaps unaware of, the excesses of some of his troops.

And what of him today? Married for 29 years, with a directorship in Lloyd's and four daughters, he continues to play a part in the game, partly because he feels an obligation to do so, but also for the "sheer enjoyment" he has derived from it. When he was appointed chairman of the selectors in 1982 he was hailed as the Messiah of English cricket: here was someone to restore discipline, contain player-power and spot those most likely to succeed at the highest class. The challenge appealed to him.

In the event, discipline has deteriorated, not least in the way England play their cricket. As chairman of the selectors May sees himself more as an assimilator than an overlord. On the other hand, it is a contradiction in terms that such a stickler for principles and good manners should have allowed himself to be identified with this week's choice of DeFreitas, who has recently been dropped by his own county for malingering. It suggested that with a manager's as well as a captain's views to be considered, the chair-



Every schoolboy's hero: Peter May, ruthless as a batsman, but now under attack as a selector

man is becoming more of a figurehead than is right and proper.

Neil Harvey, as great a batsman for Australia as May was for England, said to me in Brisbane one day that he got infinitely more jittery as a selector than ever he was when playing in a Test match. Like England now, Australia were then desperately in need of a victory, and Harvey, like May,

was sensitive to criticism. Although it may not always read like it, players and selectors, in reaching for the same goal, become closely attached.

In his autobiography, *A Game Enjoyed*, May wrote that "a four-year term based on the old reckoning that this would cover one home and one away series against Australia is about right in ordinary times". Well, 1982 to

1985 were not ordinary times. For one thing, a number of likely Test players were under a three-year ban for having played in South Africa. For another, May felt, as he still does, that the first-class game in England was being dominated to a detrimental extent by overseas players. In 1986, encouraged by victories over India and Australia, but perhaps against his better judgement, he was

BIOGRAPHY

1929: Born December 31, Reading, Berkshire
 1944-47: Played for Charterhouse 1st XI (captain 1947)
 1950-52: Cambridge cricket and football Blues
 1950: Debut for Surrey
 1951: Won first of 66 England caps (v South Africa)
 1953: Lloyd's insurance broker
 1958: Captained England for first of 41 Tests
 1957: Captain of Surrey (until 1962)
 1959: Married Virginia, daughter of the former Sussex and England cricketer, A.H.H. Gilligan
 1961: Last Test match (v Australia)
 1962: Underwriting Member of Lloyd's
 1963: Final first-class match
 1965-68: England Test selector
 1976: Director, Willis Faber and Dumas (UK) Ltd.
 1980-81: President of MCC
 1982: Appointed chairman of Test selectors.

persuaded to serve a second term. May is not an instant communicator. He is a very private person doing a very public job, a kind man having to make difficult and sometimes hurtful decisions. He can also be unbearably stubborn. His reputation for firing captains could just as well be for standing by them for too long. Willis, Gower and Gatting may have been clumsily dismissed, but not prematurely so. It could, in fact, be said of May that he is not tough enough; that he hangs on to his players for too long, and allows his captains too much say.

In the past year there have been selections which seem not to have been thought through as they should have been. There has been a lack of coherence and of foresight. The chairman's overriding qualities are his decency and sense of duty, not his presentment; his chief misfortune is the strength of England's opposition compared with what it was in his playing day, and the fact that the cupboard is so bare.

John Warr, currently the president of MCC, described May when he was a player as "the supreme professional in the ranks of the amateurs, just as Denis Compton was the supreme amateur in the ranks of the professionals". Now May is the Aunt Sally of the Press box, where one's theories, unlike his, are mostly immune from inspection.

A star is born: how galaxies keep themselves young

Seen from afar, our own Milky Way galaxy would have a spiral shape, with a bright, roughly spherical central nucleus embedded in a disk perhaps 50 light years across. Stars, gas and dust are concentrated in curving spiral arms radiating from the nucleus.

This general form is common, yet the origin of the spiral structure and its function in the billion-year life cycle of a galaxy has been a hard scientific puzzle to solve. In today's *Nature*, three American astronomers describe new observations suggesting that spiral arms are responsible for the formation of new generations of stars from the debris of the old, and that without them galaxies would lapse into old age.

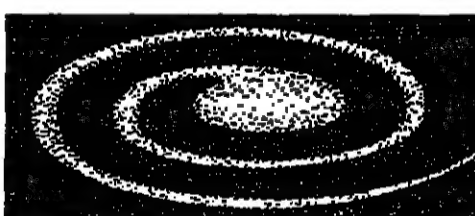
Spiral arms are rich in gas and dust. Cool, dense clouds of gas, widely thought to be the antecedents of new stars, are known to accumulate there. But this does not mean that the spiral arms play an essential role. New stars might form anywhere

in the galaxy, and might form more often in the spiral arms only because that is where most of the material to make them resides.

One theory suggests that the chief agent for making new stars is the death of old ones in gigantic supernova explosions. The powerful blast wave spreads out and runs into nearby gas clouds, compressing and heating them; the hot gas quickly radiates away its suddenly acquired energy, and after the blast wave has passed, a cool and much denser gas cloud is left behind. The shock can trigger a runaway collapse, in which the hydrogen continues to condense after the shock has passed, and after a mere million years or so can have become concentrated enough for the birth of a new star.

This theory has a corollary for spiral arms. As the supernova's blast wave spreads out, star formation can be triggered in a spherical pattern around the site of the original explosion. But this

SCIENCE REPORT



pattern is pulled out of shape because the disk of the galaxy does not rotate as a solid body, but moves faster close to the centre. A pattern of newly forming stars which would have looked more or less circular would instead get stretched into a curved arc.

Many spiral galaxies indeed have broken-up,

fragmented spiral arms, which lend themselves to such an explanation. But there are many "grand design" spirals whose arms stretch unbroken across the entire disk and are hard to explain as the consequence of local events such as supernovae.

A competing theory is based on "density waves". According to this idea, a perfectly uniform galactic disk is not stable, and develops a pattern of spiral waves that rotate slowly around the disk, compressing and rarefying the material in it just as sound waves alternately compress and rarefy the air in which they travel.

Stuart Vogel, of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and Shrinivas Kulkarni and Nicholas Z. Scoville, of the California Institute of Technology looked at the "grand design" spiral galaxy M51 and carefully measured the velocity of the gas in cool clouds distributed across the spiral arms. They found a

sharp change in velocity between gas just in front of the spiral arm and that just behind it, a phenomenon which had been predicted as a result of the passage of a density wave.

Moreover, the sudden shock given to the gas by the passing wave can, like the passing of a supernova blast wave, trigger star formation. Vogel and his colleagues also found, a bit further behind the spiral arm, an optical emission characteristic of hot hydrogen, which they claim as evidence of new stars just beginning to shine.

If the density wave theory stands up to further scrutiny, the spiral arms of galaxies are agents of rejuvenation. If they did not, once every hundred million years or so, jolt the gas and dust thrown off by old stars then new ones would never form and our sun, for example, would not be here.

David Lindley

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Plastic plan to save the Spitfire

Ronald Faux reports on a rescue mission to preserve the planes that won the Battle of Britain

Old warbirds standing guard at the gates of 100 RAF stations around Britain may be replaced by imperishable plastic replicas. The Spitfires and Hurricanes which have been quietly rotting away under the elements are to be removed for restoration by the Ministry of Defence, which acknowledges their place in the national heritage.

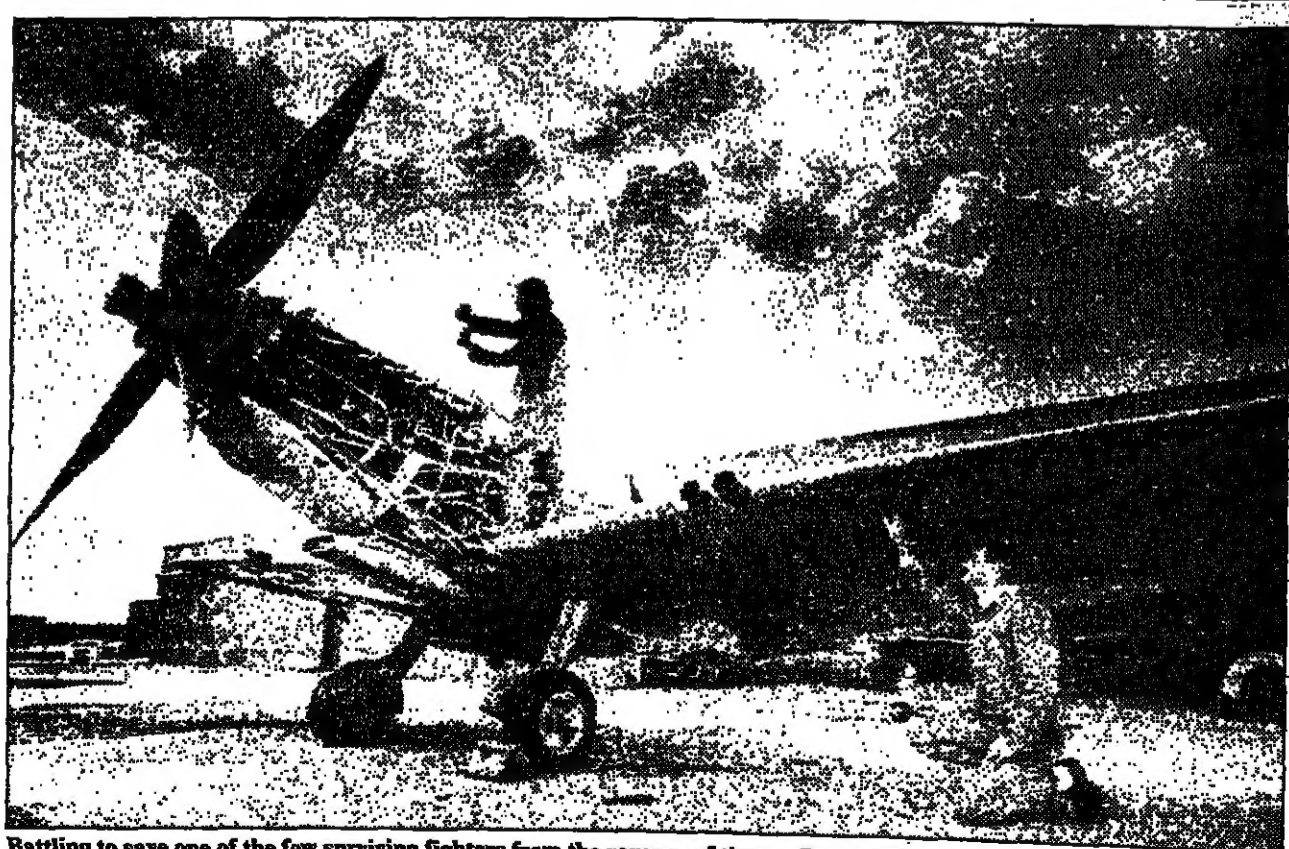
Although most of the "gate guardians" may appear to be externally pristine, under their canopies lurk decades of rust and decay. In some cases engine bearings have been found to be so rusted that the weighty Merlin that once projected the aircraft skywards are likely to drop to the ground.

According to Group Captain Robbie James, deputy director of Supply Policy at the Ministry of Defence and chairman of the Historic Aircraft Committee, some of the aircraft could fall to pieces and vigorous action is needed to safeguard the planes. Most of the RAF's 228 historic aircraft date from the Second World War and half of them stand wearily on their wheels at the entrances to RAF stations, open to the

ravages of wind and weather. The rest are held in the RAF Museum at Hendon or one of the regional collections at Cosford and St Athan. "Something had to be done to ensure that these planes would have a future and not sadly rot away," an MOD spokesman says.

The ministry has under consideration an offer to provide 12 glass fibre replicas, guaranteed not to fly but to stand as a presentable guard for 30 years, in exchange for three Spitfires. The shake-up of the RAF's grounded air force comes at a time when interest in historic aircraft is increasing rapidly. The MOD says there is no plan to sell off its historic aircraft to the private sector since the Spitfires and Hurricanes, in particular, were so significant in the history of the service. But there is no doubt that a large squadron of what were once noble fighters would now fetch significant prices at auction.

Tony Bianchi, managing director of Personal Plane Services at Booker Airfield, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, specializes in refurbishing ancient aircraft to flying condition and points out that



Battling to save one of the few surviving fighters from the ravages of time: a Second World War Spitfire under restoration

historic aircraft make good investments.

"When you see what has been paid recently in the vintage car market, planes offer tremendous value for money. A Sopwith Camel, for example, in absolutely mint condition would cost £150,000 to £200,000. A Fokker D7 £150,000. They are also great fun to fly," he says.

The difficulty with restoring a really old and rusted aircraft is that you have to take it right down to the last rivet and start from there. The cost of rebuilding could be as much as £350,000, not much less than the entire value of the aircraft when restored."

The magic of the Spitfire, however, lay not entirely in the romance of its elliptical wings and the unique note of its Merlin engine but in its

flying qualities. "It is a superb, very easy aeroplane to fly. A friendly old thing with none of the twitchy vices that other warbirds suffered from," he says. In modern computer terms it is "user friendly" and has caught the imagination of collectors more than, say, the Hawker Hurricane, the other Battle of Britain stalwart which is less easy to come by.

Doug Arnold, former owner of Blackbushe Airport, Hampshire, is believed to have one of the biggest collections of Spitfires outside the MOD

with 10 of the aircraft under restoration. About another dozen Spitfires are worthy in Britain with a couple more in Europe and half a dozen in the United States where nostalgia centres more on the Mustang.

Bianchi keeps a Spitfire among the remarkable collection of aircraft in his hangar at Booker which is a solid example of the popularity of aerial veterans. World War One aircraft are probably more popular among flying collectors because, in

their nature, they are both easier and cheaper to operate. "When you take into account fuel, maintenance and insurance, anyone who claims to be flying a Spitfire for less than £2,000 an hour is not being realistic," Bianchi says. "The Camels and SE5s of the First World War are very nimble and when fitted with a modern engine very safe. Tremendous value for money."

Certainly a different proposition from later jet aircraft which have not, as yet, caught the collector's attention to anything like the same extent, since the simplest jet-powered plane demands much greater pilot skill, technical knowledge and a pocket deep enough to pay for the 500 gallons of fuel the machine is likely to use every hour.

'Something had to be done to ensure that these planes have a future and not rot away'

هكذا من الشهي

HEALTH

Bouncing back

The Duchess of York will be back at work just weeks after the birth of her child. Is it wise? Victoria McKee reports

The publicist Jilly Forster built a new business from her maternity ward bed. Anna Wintour, now the editor of *American Vogue*, was back in harness a few weeks after her son's birth, with early morning workout and play periods as carefully structured as her career. Anne Diamond swore she would be back on the TV-am couch two months after Oliver's birth and was — despite nanny problems.

Esther Rantzen did not let her desire to breast-feed cramp her high-powered career: she had her nanny follow her around and present the baby at appropriate times; and Sophie Mirman, the Sock Shop supremo, was shown clutching her new baby shortly after the successful flotation of her company, extolling the joys of high-powered working motherhood.

Motherhood did not stop Mrs Thatcher, so why should it hamper the ambitious young woman today, particularly if she has waited to have her babies later in life so as to be on a more secure rung of the ladder of success?

Yet today's mothers-to-be are bombarded by conflicting images and advice. On the one hand it is "in" to be Earth Mother, sailing through pregnancy and a "natural" birth and breast-feeding. On the other, if she is not back at work within weeks she is considered a failure in some circles.

Royal mothers, while expected to represent traditional family values, are also working mothers, whose high profile duties require them to be back on view and back in shape as quickly as any ambitious career woman. The Duchess of York is planning to be back at work six weeks after the birth of her child, on a gruelling tour of Australia in the full blaze of pub-

licity when she will scarcely have regained her figure or her equilibrium.

The midwife Susan Brown, part of the "parentcraft team" at St Thomas's Hospital with which the Duchess's gynaecologist, Anthony Kenney, is affiliated, points out that "the medical term 'puerperal psychosis' is used to refer to problems which can occur for a full year after the birth, when hormones can still go haywire." This is why, many argue, a mother's place is in the home — at least for that first year.

Some go further. Dr Andrew Stanway, a psychosexual and marital counsellor and co-author (with his wife, Dr Penny Stanway) of several books on childcare and breast-feeding, feels that a mother should be the primary caretaker of her child at least up until school age.

He believes that "a unique bond — intuitive, physical and spiritual" exists between mother and child, which is only broken to the detriment of both. But he agrees that "anything that is done wholeheartedly, whether it's going back to work or staying at home, is better than trying to ride both horses and falling off".

Sheila Kitzinger, the natural childbirth advocate, is a surprising champion of a mother's right to work, despite her emphasis on the importance of "bonding" and breast-feeding. "Some women need to work — others want to —

and it's right that they should be able to." But she worries about "the unfair pressures" placed upon mothers today to be back at work so quickly. She favours a part-time, phased-in return, an option increasingly being offered by enlightened employers.

The DHSS, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Department of Employment, the Policy Studies Institute and the Maternity Alliance all agree that women are working longer into pregnancy and coming back to work full-time much sooner after birth than they ever did before.

And the stay in maternity wards is being similarly shortened. At St Mary's, Paddington, which sees some 2,300 births a year and which released the Princess of Wales within 24 hours of the birth of each of her children, Kitty Capel, the senior midwife, says that "the stay can be anywhere from six hours to seven days — for a Caesarean section — but the average stay is three or four days."

Whether a Caesarean is elective or an emergency can make a big difference in the recovery period, Capel adds, as does whether the mother is fat or slim, active or sedentary. And these days, midwives insist, there is no difficulty in Caesarean mothers "bonding" with or breast-feeding their babies.

Annette Fayburn, director of nursing at the private Portland Hospital, where the Duchess of York elected to have her baby, is

more conservative in her advice on when a new mother should leave the hospital. "Those women are few and far between who can leave after six hours," she says. "We find between five and seven days is our average stay, and we recommend 10 days for a Caesarean."

Dr Miriam Stoppard, childcare expert and mother of four, attributes discrepancies in attitudes and appearance among pregnant women and new mothers almost entirely to hormones and says it is impossible to predict in advance how any woman will react to pregnancy and motherhood — and it may not be the same each time.

"Too many problems are caused by people going too far too soon," warns Betty Parsons, who prepared 20,000 British women for birth over 32 years at her private clinic, which has now closed. She is believed to have coached the Duchess of York privately "not just for labour but for life", as she puts it. "What is most important for mothers-to-be and mothers-just-become is rest."

Luckily the Duchess of York's royal commitments come with substantial backup. She is unlikely to be left in the lurch by a temperamental nanny or have to daily prove her dependability to a sceptical employer. She seems confident about being able to accompany her husband abroad — and cope with the demands of her baby who, it is now said, may accompany the royal couple.

But, no matter how confident or organized the mother, "one thing you can be sure of," Stanway says, "is never be sure of anything a pregnant woman tells you about her plans before the birth."



About to become a working mother: the Duchess of York now and, right, arriving at her old publishing job

MEDICAL BRIEFING

DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

Not simplex

Four patients this week have more in common than they realize. The tearful Kashmiri girl in excruciating pain from genital herpes, the child covered in chicken-pox spots, the tourist with a cold sore on his lip, and Mrs Peregrine Worsthorne, the wife of the editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, who has had an attack of facial shingles. All are victims of closely related viruses of the herpes family. Chicken-pox and shingles are caused by *herpes zoster*; cold sores and genital herpes by two different types of the *herpes simplex*. According to *The Spectator*, Mrs Worsthorne's departing doctor failed to grasp the difference between *herpes simplex* and *zoster* and implied that she had caught facial genital herpes. He compounded his mistake by saying that no treatment was possible. He was wrong on both counts.

Provided that treatment is started early, all varieties of herpes can be effectively treated with adequate doses of acyclovir, Zovirax.

In shingles, the *herpes zoster* virus usually infects the dorsal root ganglia of the spinal cord, where it can lie dormant after an attack of chicken-pox for many years, until it is activated by a change in the patient's resistance. A more important cause for the attack, such as a hidden disease or the use of immunosuppressant drugs, should be suspected if the attack lasts for more than a fortnight, or is widespread.

In shingles the area of the skin supplied from the infected ganglion becomes inflamed, swollen, and later blistered and ulcerated. Mrs Worsthorne was one of the unlucky 10 per cent who has had the attack on her face — it is more common on the chest and abdomen.

Joint action

Hair can be dyed, faces lifted, breasts and buttocks tightened, and the illusion of youth maintained, but it is difficult, as the actress Elizabeth Taylor has recently discovered, to do much about concealing the effects of the ravages of time on the skeleton, the matrix on which these other soft tissues are dependent for their form. Early reports suggested that Taylor, who is 56, was being admitted to St John's Hospital, Santa Monica, California, for an operation on her spine allegedly affected by osteoporosis which was aggravating an old riding injury to her back. It was assumed that the operation would relieve nerve root pain. More recently it has been said that the pain in her back is now secondary to an arthritic hip.

Her surgeons have suggested a hip replacement to restore a pain-free, easy walk but it is reported that Taylor has rejected their advice. An artificial hip may well be a sign of advancing years but so efficient are modern techniques that although a 56-year-old might develop a tell-tale gait thereafter, there is every chance that he or she would still be walking and sleeping pain-free in their middle seventies. New operations for younger patients will give an artificial hip joint an even longer life.

Women who want to postpone bony signs of ageing need to take precautions early. They should discuss hormone replacement therapy with their doctor, and be careful to avoid too much alcohol. It is perhaps noteworthy that Taylor is an ex-patient of the Betty Ford Clinic, and takes plenty of brisk exercise, two simple measures which stave off osteoporosis.

Phantom Aids

Reports that the fear of Aids can be so great in people whose lifestyle makes them vulnerable to the disease that they develop symptoms, phantom Aids, which are identical to those caused by the real illness, have occasioned no surprise to doctors working in genitourinary medicine. They are by now accustomed to investigating and treating a patient with diarrhoea, tiredness, persistent cough, unexplained weight loss or weird rashes, only to find that the signs and symptoms disappear once the HIV test is proved negative.

This phenomenon is age-old. In the past many an errant husband was convinced that some trivial spot was a syphilitic chancre and thereafter complained of other symptoms; sometimes even after blood tests had shown that he was clear of syphilis. For more than 2,000 years doctors have been studying

phantom ills. Psychiatrists categorize their patients and draw distinctions between those suffering from hysterical neuroses, somatization disorders, atypical somatiform disorders, or hypochondriacal neuroses.

Less specialized doctors find that the boundaries are blurred, although at the extremes the diagnosis can be very obvious. The politician who quite involuntarily loses his voice, aphonia, before an important engagement (but incidentally still coughs loudly), or the soldier with pre-battle paralysis is very apparently suffering from hysteria. The over-conscientious achiever who, when he finally cracks, subconsciously prefers to account for his illness by exaggerating some minor physical ail, is equally obviously suffering from hypochondriacal symptoms, which if they are associated with a depressive disorder, as they usually are, will rapidly respond to treatment. Patients with phantom Aids could arguably be described as having a somatization disorder.

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TIMES DIARY ALLAN MASSIE

The only day in July on which it didn't rain here in Scotland was St Swithun's birthday. Actually, I think the saint is an old fraud, or doesn't operate in Selkirkshire; the first summer we were here, his day was marked by a deluge, and then we had a fortnight of glorious weather.

This has been the wettest July ever recorded. Many farmers had their crops of winter barley destroyed last weekend. Cut hay has been lying sodden in the fields for a month now. These are real troubles in comparison with which the afflictions of those foolish enough to spend the first days of the holidays camped in airport lounges seem small beer.

The Game Fair at Floors Castle suffered from the rain; nevertheless 92,000 people turned up. Viewed from the front of the castle the fair offered an extraordinary spectacle of pavilions rising from a morass. "Quite medieval," as someone said, and quite right too. On the other side of the Tweed from Floors is a knoll and some stonework which is all that remains of the great medieval castle of Roxburgh. It was the scene of many sieges in the Middle Ages, and many armies must have encamped on the Game Fair site. A tree in the park marks the spot where James II was standing when a cannon exploded nearby and killed him, one of the first accidental victims of fairly modern technology. The cannon was of the type called a bombard and the King was killed in July 1460 — on St Swithun's day I shouldn't wonder.

A few months ago I had thought to spend an agreeable hour of the fair in The Field tent. However, after the Carmelite House coup of last December which saw the ejection of my friend Simon Courtauld from the editor's chair, I resolved to stop writing for the magazine and felt I would therefore be persona non grata. However, I passed the tent and was interested to see one of Simon's predecessors, Wilson Stephens.

It was, incidentally, Stephens who alarmed some dog owners by writing an article in which he said dogs might attack their masters or mistresses if they found them lying down, being accustomed to seeing them erect and failing to recognize them in a different posture. This may be true, but the answer is simple. You should let your dog sleep on your bed, which is a good thing anyway in Scotland where we have no central heating, and the dog supplies heat and weight. That Border lass, Margaret Asquith, née Tomsant, from Glen House over the hill, once said her husband, the Prime Minister, would sleep naked under a grand piano. He should have tried a Labrador.

BARRY FANTONI



'Already? It doesn't seem a year since the last display'

Living in the country one grows more and more like Lord Emsworth and reluctant to venture to town. Even Edinburgh, though only 40 miles away, is a daunting prospect. This means that though I am theoretically a great supporter of the festival, I go less and less often. However it starts earlier every year, and a splendid exhibition of Picabia has already opened in the Royal Scottish Academy, so I attended the press view. I arrived late, missing the rest of the press, and so can't "Jennifer" the occasion.

The pictures are very jolly though. In the accompanying exhibition of Dada and Surrealism from private collections, there is a marvellous Francis Bacon and a Paul Delvaux which I took to be a di Chirico if it had been one. I have a soft spot for di Chirico partly because I used to see him in the Caffè Greco in Via Condotti where he went at noon every day and where the waiters addressed him as "Maestro" quite rightly.

I have a soft spot for the RSA too, if only because it is a splendid building. The Scottish National Gallery's publicity director Janis Adams asked me to say that they have a very fine shop, so I shall I wouldn't if they hadn't. You can't miss the Royal Scottish Academy claret there with the label designed by the academician Alberto Morroco.

Another good thing about country life is that you don't have to go to the theatre. The exception is Judy Steel's Borders Festival, which is compulsory, but only happens every second year. (I shall have to go next year anyway because she has asked me to write a play about Sir Walter Scott). But otherwise there is little theatre in the borders, just as there are no trains. (Prospective visitors are sometimes deterred by the information that we are equidistant from three stations: Edinburgh, Berwick and Carlisle. You can deliver this news in the same tone as John Fothergill's waiter who, being asked whether there were any trains from "this beastly hole" on a Sunday, replied, "Yes, there are two: one at 3.00pm and the second at 3.02pm.")

Consequently I haven't seen John McGrath's 7:84 company for several years, a deprivation I regard with equanimity. I can't tell whether the Scottish Arts Council's criticism of its declining standards is justified or not. But I do know that the petulant tone of his resignation letter is absurd. McGrath is one of those zealous lefties who seems to think he has a right to public money, but that it is incumbent on the funding body to criticize what he does with it.

Alan Coren is on holiday.

Beirut When King Husain addressed his people on Jordanian state television last Sunday, he had behind his head an outside portrait of his grandfather, King Abdullah.

It was old Abdullah who in 1950 — 15 months before his assassination in Jerusalem — annexed the West Bank of the Jordan river, bequeathing to his grandson a land which for more than half his rule would lie outside his control. Now Husain wished the world — and particularly the Palestinians — to know that the West Bank was their sovereign land again, at least so far as Jordan was concerned.

But the Hashemite monarchy, which at various times has coveted or sought the return to its rule of Syria and Iraq as well as mandate Palestine, has long grown used to the gentle art of political subterfuge.

Only 14 years ago the King had returned from the Arab summit in Rabat at which he had acknowledged the PLO as "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people". Back in Amman in November 1974, he had tried to show he meant business, reorganizing the Jordanian government to exclude most Palestinian representatives and dissolving the lower house of parliament because half the deputies in it were from the West Bank. Yet here he was on Sunday, once more handing the West Bank over to the PLO. Or so it seemed. But if ever there was a policy dictated by political conditions rather than conviction or philosophy, this was it.

In truth, King Husain plays his hand from a permanent position of political and military weakness. Jordan has many friends but few natural resources. It is militarily vulnerable to the Israelis and its king has never been able to meet the territorial aspirations of his grandfather.

On Sunday he simply repeated the old scenario of independence for the West Bank with no guarantee that he will not withdraw his promise at a future date.

Even the slightest study of the past 14 years shows how this policy came about. When the Israelis invaded Lebanon in 1982, they largely destroyed the military infrastructure of the PLO, leaving Mr Arafat both politically and militarily impotent. His base in Lebanon had temporarily disappeared and most important of all, the Americans had come up with a peace plan for the West Bank. President Reagan spoke of a common Jordanian-Palestinian involvement in a Middle East settlement and it was then that King Husain, who had hitherto dutifully maintained the promises he had given about PLO hegemony at Rabat, began to re-adjust his policy.

At the Arab summit at Fez in 1982 Arab leaders came close to

Robert Fisk on Jordan's decision to withdraw from the West Bank

Husain seesaws again

recognising Israel. They asserted that there should be a Palestinian state but, more important, they talked about Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation. Then in June 1984, King Husain simply recalled the lower house of the Jordanian parliament as if he had never dissolved it in 1974. In February 1985 Husain and Arafat signed their short-lived accord which was to allow Jordan a leading role in negotiations for a Palestinian entity.

But Arafat still refused to accept UN resolution 242 — which states that Israel would return occupied Arab territory in return for recognised borders — and in February 1986 Husain revoked the agreement and ejected the PLO from Amman.

The king also announced a five-year development plan for the West Bank worth at least \$1.3 billion. What he failed to

predict, however, was the Palestinian uprising on the West Bank, a development which had two immediate results.

It underlined a strong Palestinian national identity which reduced the influence of Jordan with every Palestinian killed by the Israelis. And it emphasised the role of the PLO, something acknowledged by the Israelis themselves when they assassinated Abu Jihad, the PLO's military leader, in Tunis.

This was no time for the king to press any claims to the West Bank. Instead, he decided to punish those who had most angered him.

The PLO itself will be hard pressed to pay for the West Bank's civil servants — if in fact the king does relinquish responsibility for their employment — since much of its latest six month \$50 million contribution

from Saudi Arabia will be used to pay striking workers in the occupied territory and the families of those killed by the Israelis.

The other Arab nations who have failed to help Jordan are now faced with the prospect of further dealings with Mr Arafat as the only representative of the Palestinians.

The Americans, too, have been punished. King Husain had been infuriated by the antics of Mr Shultz who went on commuting to the Middle East while the Americans continued to support the Israelis with so little attempt at criticism or exercise of the "leverage" which they always claimed to have over Israel.

Indeed, if Likud wins power in the Israeli elections, many Jordanian officials suspect the Israelis will annex the West Bank. Where will the American "peace process" stand then? Perhaps the US will intervene with King Husain to interpose once again, with substantial economic assistance as the bait. If so, the king is likely to shoulder responsibility for the West Bank just as firmly as he threw it away last weekend.

Bernard Levin

Making pigs of ourselves



Rembrandt's 'Anatomy Lesson'

Barry Fantoni asks for ethical advice on pig transplants, cried the headline. They shall have it. My first feeling on reading about the latest "breakthrough" was one of revulsion, indeed of horror. Beware of first feelings, the doctors involved would say — will say — do say. No, say I, trust those first feelings, for in these matters they are overwhelmingly likely to be right. And there is a reason for that likelihood. There are impulses in us which come direct from a level far deeper than reason, and wise men and women will pay heed to what leaps across the rational gulf, because it comes from the ultimate repository of moral truth.

Why, and how, do we always know when we are doing wrong, even if we continue to do it? Because that inner voice — call it god, call it soul, call it spirit, call it the subconscious, call it conscience, call it a packet of prawn-flavoured potato crisps for all I care, it tells us the truth. Reason, later, finds arguments to back up that truth (or, too frequently, to deny it), but that extraordinary and inexplicable moral gyroscope which we all have in us will bring us back into balance if we will only let it.

Very well; I recoiled in horror at the news that it will shortly be possible for a pig's kidney to replace a human being's. But it behoves me to say why.

First, let us consider the heart-transplant operations that have become so fashionable — nay, all the rage — since Dr Christian Barnard pioneered the treatment. A few voices were raised at the time, and some more later, at the prodigious waste of resources involved; has any cost-conscious hospital registrar worked out how many thousands of hip-operations, cataracts, hernias, prostatectomies, squints, tendons and sciaticas could have been dealt with if the circus in the next operating-theatre had not been assembled?

Of course, we must not ask the doctors to play God (some of them need no asking), and the dilemma is not as acute than it used to be — indeed, it is more so, because an ever-rising demand for treatment cannot, this side of Heaven, be matched by an ever-rising material capacity to satisfy it. But for that very reason every hospital, and every

surgeon, does in fact choose priorities, and must do so. Do you remember the uproar, some years ago, about the hospital in which some patients' charts were endorsed NTBE, and it was discovered that this meant, in the case of those whose condition was hopeless and who were not expected to live much longer, "Not To Be Resuscitated"? The uproar resulted in the offending letters being expunged, but it is quite certain that those in charge continued to act as though they were still there, and so does every other hospital, because they cannot do otherwise.

The abrupt resignation of the head of the group which has made this latest discovery is most welcome: to hear his excited sales-patter, a universal panacea has been discovered, capable of curing everything from acne to decapitation and from baldness to income-tax. Mind you, the trouble in the group seems to have been provoked only by the thought that

such boasting might prejudice their chances of ample funding for their experiments, and if the money is not forthcoming at once, howls of protest will be heard, loud enough to ensure that the more modest weeping of the medical service that is to be mulcted for their benefit will not be heard.

I would not want to take the tragic decision: if course A is followed, patient X will live, but patient Z will die, and if course B is pursued, patient Z will live but patient X will die. But that brings me to a different part of the argument altogether, where such considerations do not apply. In the first place, it should be recognised that sooner or later patients X and Z will both die, however many nostrums are tried on them, and however many of their vital organs are replaced by those of a passing pig.

This is not just a quibble; I believe that the "miracle cures" we are now offered three times a

day after meals, which are hailed with more enthusiasm than even the inhabitants of Bethany displayed at the raising of Lazarus, are symptomatic of a deeply neurotic fear of death — far greater than ever before in history — which is in turn attributable to the almost total secularisation of the life led in societies such as ours. And of all the aspects of that life, it is the end of it that has been most thoroughly purged of any meaning beyond the terrifying nothingness that so many people equate it with.

I am not the first man to wonder why death has become such a terror despite the fact that it is the only thing of which we are certain from the day we are born. I long ago abandoned the thought that it might be because some kind of punishment beyond death is thought to be in store; people stopped believing in an afterlife even before they stopped believing that they had some kind of purpose in this one. I have gradually come to the

conclusion that there is a widespread *resentment* of death, as bringing to an end the pleasures of the world, which will surely soon turn into a demand that it should be abolished. Meanwhile, fear rules people to the extent of refusing even to contemplate death, so that they will snatch at any quicksilver's elixir; when the salesman is not a charlatan but a respectable doctor, the snatching is all the more violent. Who is now allowed to die at home? Very few, in domestic circumstances death will make those around the deathbed to think upon their end, and that would never do.

And so we come to the Island of Dr Moreau. Does anyone read Wells's novels today? Much of the science-fiction has been long surpassed by reality, let alone by even richer imaginations, but this haunting long-short story is a metaphor for our time, and when I read of pig's kidneys in human bodies I thought of it at once. The eponymous doctor's work consists of blurring the line

between animals and men; in effect, he is seeking to make the former into the latter. He succeeds, too, for a time, but god, or possibly biology, is not mocked; the transformed animals begin to revert to their original status, while intoning their tragic slogan "Are we not men?"

No, they aren't; but we are. But how much longer will we be when we are emptied out and filled with the kidneys of pigs and the hearts of chimpanzees and the lungs of war-hogs and the windpipes of rats and the stomachs of cows, and while we are about it, eye of newt and toe of frog, wool of bat and tongue of dog, adder's fork and blind-worm's sting, lizard's leg and howlet's wing, for a charm of powerful trouble, like a hell-broth boil and bubble?

And all for what? For postponing death by a week or a year or several years? Is no one any longer willing even to entertain the possibility that our span on this earth is not only of finite duration, but in some unknowable dimension bestowed for a purpose that is not our own to choose? Stewart Alsop, the American political writer, died of leukaemia; it was a very prolonged death, largely because the course of the malady did not follow the usual pattern, so he had time to write a book about it, called *Slay of Execution*. Towards the end of the book and of his life, he used a haunting phrase: "There comes a time," he said, "when a dying man has to die, as a sleepy man has to sleep." And, in a very different mode, do you remember how Mandy Shinwell concluded his 100 years? Conscious and *compos mentis* to the end, he flung up his hands and said "I've had enough!"

Wise men, both of them. For my part, I shall die when I am good and ready, with my own innards still inside me. Hear Chesterton:

My friends, we will not go again or ape an ancient rage, Or stretch the folly of our youth to be the shame of age, But walk with clearer eyes and ears this path that wandereth, And see undrugged in evening light the decent inn of death; For there is good news yet to hear, we go to Paradise by way of Kensal Green.

Commentary • RONALD BUTT

A time for reflection

Not since the late Alliance was at its peak in the last Parliament, frightening the Conservatives with the prospect of robbing them of their 1987 election majority, have more uncertainly overtaken the political scene. On the face of it, Mrs Thatcher's government is firmly underpinned by the strife in the Labour Party which has been precipitated by Mr Kinnock's attempt to revise its electorally unacceptable policies, and by the destruction of the Alliance. This autumn's Labour conference will be the beginning of a long and bitter struggle to stop the leadership's revisionism. The SLD is only at the start of a quest for an identity under a new and inexperienced leader flourishing a blank sheet.

Both parties are searching for something to say in order to be in business. But Mrs Thatcher is in business because she and her party know the kind of society they are aiming at — and three election victories suggest that it is broadly what the country wants. Yet the Government is now at risk from dangers threatening to undermine the anti-inflation policy which supports all their other achievements, above all industrial prosperity and falling unemployment.

Despite reduced Government spending, balanced budgets and a steadily diminishing national debt, something has gone wrong. The boom has inflated domestic credit, earnings are running above the inflation rate and interest rates have had to go up drawing foreign money to

Britain and driving up the pound to the disadvantage of exporters. Although the Government prefers to emphasize the part played by necessary imports of essential capital goods in the re-emerged trade deficit, it seems probable that the greater cause is credit-happy consumer spending on foreign goods.

As a result, inflation is set to rise over the next 12 months, almost certainly to more than six per cent, which is a serious reverse for ministers who talked not long ago of reaching nil inflation. Given the Government's belief that it cannot act on consumer credit through physical controls, it is right to use high interest rates to try to restrain the flood of consumer credit. It is certainly clear that Mrs Thatcher was right to argue for higher interest rates sooner and that the Chancellor was wrong to resist, though she was wrong to conduct the argument in public. Interest rates may work.

But as well as affecting industry adversely, making credit dear, it increasingly seems to be an inadequate deterrent, except when interest rates are at damagingly high levels. Moreover, even the Chancellor's acclaimed budget is now under question. What, for instance, are the implications for public services of a budget-assisted encouragement to consumer spending in the midst of an inflationary credit boom? The voters welcome Mrs Thatcher's more individually responsible society but they do not see all commu-

nity spending as bad, and Mrs Thatcher knows this, which is why she has moved Mr Kenneth Clarke to the new Health Department. Some of her disciples regard "community" as automatically a rude word because, like compassion, it has been misused, but on the basic public services she herself does not make that mistake.

So what if health and other important public services which should profit from the general prosperity, suffer in this autumn's expenditure planning because of the private credit boom? Is there not a case for the Government to reconsider its attitude to controlling the flood of domestic credit physically and not only through the rate of interest? What is clear is that the Prime Minister should think very hard this recess and reflect that it is dangerous to rely too heavily on her foes' disarray.

Labour she can probably depend on. Its shadow ministers know that to have any hope of electoral success it must reform its unilateralist and anti-Nato attitudes and accept a more free and market-based society. But they are resisted by those on whom the party relies for money and work and are handicapped by an over-promoted leader whose temperament is more appropriate to the ranks of the left, through which he rose and which he now seeks to oppose, than to No 10.

The joker in the pack is Mr Paddy Ashdown. He wants the SLD to be new and different from the old Liberals which may

offend many who voted for him simply because they longed for the Grimmond touch again. They have certainly chosen a man about whose thinking almost nothing is known, and that is one of the most extraordinary political events of the year.

The tradition of New Parties in British politics is not encouraging to the SLD. They seldom prosper except when they are a response to a clear issue. Yet Mr Ashdown's SLD could be different. He has self-confidence and energy and is a risk-taker which is essential in politics. He is right in seeing that the vacuum for the SLD to fill is as an alternative to the Tories, in Labour's place. The fact that his earliest votes would initially come from the Tories does not prove him wrong. A government's voters are always a third party's softest target.

So what if Mr Ashdown does produce something new, syphoning off enough discontented Tories to encourage Labour supporters fed up with a non-credible party to join them? What if the SLD could be brought to offer something different from the tired Steelite reflex actions of the Sixties? It could be enough to do damage to a government in trouble over inflation. At the moment Mr Ashdown stands vague and rhetorical as though proclaiming: "I can call spirits from the vasty deep." We must reply: "But will they come when you do call for them?" Nevertheless, it is at well to bear in mind that some just might.

AUGUST 4 ON THIS DAY 1955

Peter Hall's production of an English translation of Samuel Beckett's now famous play was widely acclaimed, though the Times critic was clearly puzzled as to what it was all about.

ARTS THEATRE "WAITING FOR GODOT"

BY SAMUEL BECKETT

The dramatic instinct reveals itself in a flow of unexpected, absorbing happenings upon the stage. But a play is something more — it is the flow gradually emerging as some significant image. Mr Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, now to be seen at the Arts Theatre in a brilliant production by Mr Peter Hall, insists that these truisms shall be restated.

That Mr Beckett — an Irishman who lives in Paris and writes for preference in French — possesses the dramatic instinct in a most original sense one cannot doubt. His work in two acts holds the stage most wittily, but is it a play? Its significance — and how one feels, Mr Beckett must abjure the word would seem to be that nothing finally is significant.

Two tramps stand near a tree on a desolate country road waiting for Godot. One, played by Mr Paul Daneman, manifests a sense of responsibility, a sense of the desperate necessity of their waiting, that gives him a certain threadbare dignity; the other (Mr Peter Woodthorpe) is a whimpering grotesque all for deserting or suicide by hanging. The dialogue between them is a meandering essay in the inconsequential; if

Kafka had tried to write a music hall sketch for two clowns it might perhaps have struck a similar chord. The identity of Godot, the source of his power, are of course, never made explicit; though there are some carefully placed remarks about a servant, while the tramps' buffoonery and cross-questioning continues what we do feel palpably is a sense of the passing of time that has been lived. This is interrupted by the outrageous appearance of a portly, prosperous-looking farming gentleman, who is leading on a rope an ancient servant (Mr Timothy Bateson) foaming at the mouth tethered by his neck, and bent low by the burden of his master's suitcase, hamper, and stool.

The master, played by Mr Peter Hall, is not Godot — he is Pozzo. He represents a bullying authority that occasionally breaks down in floods of childish tears; but it is an authority none the less and as such it gives the tramps a flicker of hope. They temporarily forget Godot.

At this point Mr Beckett would seem to be hinting at some profound interpretation of the relation between master and servant, but no doubt deliberately, this is never clarified.

On the next evening everything is repeated with a difference. Pozzo has gone blind and hence is led by his servant who is dumb. The tramps' memories begin to fail. The small boy reappears, but not Godot. The tree has sprouted leaves.

The thorough Irish intelligence of much of Mr Beckett's dialogue and his power of theatrical invention force one to take his fantasy seriously, but it remains a fantasy. His patiently elemental personages are figures in whom we cannot ultimately believe since they lack universality.

Somali civil w

from the American Somali Democratic Republic. Mr Andrew Buckle (p. 21) makes a strong case for the SLD, but the SLD will do better to attract a wider range of supporters. And quick to lay all the blame on the Government, he mentions that it was groups who attacked the Somali Government, and that the area at the Somali Government's disposal was busy with the process for the whole of Africa is plagued with the influx of refugees. These are created and perpetuated by the interference of weapons and technical aid, and the disruption of the development of the country. The machines use and the disruption of the country's development. The machines use and the disruption of the country's development.

Yours sincerely, SALAH MOHAMMED, Embassy of the Somali Democratic Republic, 60 Portland Place, W.1.

Gazumping de

From Mr Michael Barrow, otherwise sensible, gazumping (July 26) you argue that solicitors' professions have



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

TROUBLE INSIDE

It 20 years ago, you had been asked to pick which industry best typified the then "English disease" of ingrained labour unrest, you would have pointed at the docks. Ten years ago the car industry or newspapers would have taken your eye. Today there can be no better candidate than the prison system.

Scarcely a week goes by without some form of industrial action being taken by members of the Prison Officers' Association. In some prisons the action lasts for months — as at Wormwood Scrubs where in February staff began to turn away prisoners who would take the numbers above the "certified normal accommodation" level. Occasionally, as at Holloway this week, staff stage a walk-out. Sympathetic trouble at other London jails has followed.

The union has grown steadily more militant. In part this is because more officers are recruited from industry, fewer from the ranks of ex-servicemen. In part it is because of the natural solidarity of men in uniform, many of whom live together and drink together, often under threat of violence. In part too, it is because they have no fear of working themselves out of a job. The distant prospect of privatization holds no fear that the prison officers' services will no longer be required.

Within the union organization itself there is serious unrest, which at one time led the articulate and thoughtful general secretary to present and then withdraw his resignation. It has led to the chairman opposing the introduction of new working practices and the sacking of some headquarters staff.

The union is made up of powerful, semi-autonomous branches, which make decisions and enter disputes without much reference to the central body — much as Fleet Street chapels or motor industry shops used to. This tendency is encouraged by the nature of the prison system in which each jail has a historical and cultural identity of its own.

The union says that its members are angry because of unfulfilled promises by the Home Office. The Home Office point to a new prison building programme which will have five new

centres taking prisoners within 12 months, a record recruitment programme which will put 1,360 additional officers on the landings by May next year. Particularly it will point to "Fresh Start", the new deal for prison staff agreed last year which was to introduce efficient working practices, give "enhanced regimes" for the prisoners, consolidate overtime earnings into basic pay and get rid of dependence on overtime altogether.

"Fresh Start" has not so far lived up to its expectations. Prisoners have found that they have had to spend more time locked in their cells, not less. Officers in the provinces have indeed found that their earnings have risen and their hours of work have declined; but in London where overtime used to reach colossal levels, some officers are taking home much thinner pay packets.

"Fresh Start" has provided a fertile ground for the union's growing militancy to take root. Disputes over manning levels are a constant source of friction and are at the heart of this week's trouble. This particular dispute centres on the manning necessary at the moment at which prison officers understandably feel most vulnerable — at unlocking time. But in any industry with reasonable modern attitudes such disputes could have been resolved by negotiation.

The prison service at present lacks a sense of corporate identity which engages both management and staff. It is run by a collection of Civil Servants who pass through the prisons department on their way to run some other Home Office responsibility.

If the prison service could be devolved to an agency, and run autonomously as British Rail or the Post Office, or indeed as it used to be under the old Prison Commission, both sides of the system would be able to feel that they belonged to the same industry. Civil Servants would build their careers within the service. The Director General of Prisons could cease to be a faceless bureaucrat and become a prominent public figure, able to start the long job of leading his staff to a better state of morale.

BILL OF MANY COLOURS

First reactions from Brussels to the Government's plans to issue Treasury bills denominated in European Currency Units were predictable: the move was welcome, said Commission staff, but no substitute for full membership of the European Monetary System. Despite this slightly grudging welcome the plan for ECU Treasury bills is a smart bit of footwork whose symbolic value will be at least as great as its practical usefulness.

Britain is certainly in need of a European gesture. Although the renegotiation of EEC membership, which poisoned the first 10 years of its relationship with Europe, has been resolved, Britain is still seen to be out of step on many issues. It has consistently been more concerned than its partners to limit the wider implications of the Common Agricultural Policy and to take proper control of the EEC's budget. Now in the approach to 1992 it is preaching a gospel of deregulation and the removal of trade barriers where many of its partners, backed by the Commission, are only too obviously more concerned to harmonize the existing regulations and create a bureaucratically administered rulebook.

Many EEC countries, as well as countries further afield, have in fact moved in the direction of "Thatcherite" economics during the 1980s. This might be thought to suggest that it is Britain which is in step and some of the others which are out. But acceptance of that fact does little to ease tensions.

Nor has Mrs Thatcher herself felt any need to soothe the feelings of those for whom Europe is more than just a geographical expression. As her recent interview on the Jimmy Young programme showed once again, she has a deeply felt prejudice in favour of national sovereignty and against the bureaucracy of co-operation. She also knows very well

that this prejudice wins more votes than it loses. The decision to issue ECU Treasury bills is of a piece with this non-sensical approach to Europe. But at the same time it gives Britain the moral satisfaction of having taken a concrete step towards greater European economic and monetary co-operation when others have only talked.

The "European" arguments for greater use of the ECU are that it may help a little in maintaining exchange rate stability and that it could be a useful lubricant to trade inside the EEC — both steps (if modest ones) towards European monetary union. France has long complained that, because the pound is part of the basket of currencies which make up the ECU on which EMS parities are partly based, fluctuations in sterling can destabilize the currencies within the EMS. Adding ECUs to Britain's reserves will make it easier to intervene in foreign exchange markets without upsetting the EMS. For companies, a flourishing market in ECUs could make it easier to limit financial risks on European trade.

There is also a British argument for the ECU issue. By creating the only internationally tradable short-term Government paper in ECUs the Government is hoping to claim primacy in the ECU market for the City. This will help not only the Government's "friends in the City" but British industry and the balance of payments.

The Commission, of course, is quite right that this is no substitute for full membership of the EMS. To that Mrs Thatcher, though not her Chancellor, remains resolutely opposed. But it is useful in its own right, and it enables Britain to take a front seat on the bandwagon of European economic and monetary union which had threatened to leave the station without us.

Somali civil war

From the Ambassador of the Somali Democratic Republic. Sir, Mr Andrew Buckle (report, July 22) makes a string of ungrounded allegations. He attempts to predict what the Somali Government will do after defeating the armed band who attacked the northern towns of Somalia and their supporters. And while he is quick to lay all blame on the Somali Government he fails to mention that it was the armed groups who attacked and caused death, destruction and temporary chaos in the area at a time when the Somali Government was painstakingly busy with the peace process for the whole region.

If Africa is plagued by the ever-increasing influx of refugees it is not the making of the African Governments. These conditions are created and perpetuated by the all-pervasive interference of the politically and technologically advanced countries who provide the weapons and the propaganda machine which disrupts, disorients and confuses the developing countries and their Governments. These machines use and thrive on unsophisticated naive dissidents and the damaging information they provide. Yours sincerely, SALAX MOHAMED ALI, Ambassador of the Somali Democratic Republic, 60 Portland Place, W1, July 26.

Gazumping denial

From Mr Michael Barton. Sir, It is a pity that in your otherwise sensible leader on gazumping (July 26) you could not resist the usual swipe at solicitors. You argue that solicitors (and other professions) have an interest

in perpetuating gazumping because "the more conveyancing is required, even if no house is eventually transferred, the better pleased are the conveyancers." I know no solicitor who enjoys dealing with a conveyance which does not go through to completion, or having to send the client a bill for work which has been unproductive. All solicitors detest gazumping, contract races and the whole of the stress and disappointment that go with conveyancing matters which do not proceed to the end.

You, along with other newspapers, continually pay lip service to the interests of the "consumer". In the property market both vendor and purchaser are consumers. The sole cause of gazumping is the desire of vendors to get as much money as they can in a rapidly-moving market. If anyone must be blamed it is the consumer and not the professional, although it is easier to blame the latter. Yours faithfully, M. F. BARTON, Michael Barton & Co (solicitors), 20 Fore Street, Kingsbridge, Devon.

Working holidays

From the Principal of the Blackheath School of Art. Sir, I read the article by A. James Ferguson, entitled "Service with a wince" (July 23) with interest.

It reminded me of a working holiday I spent in the United States some 20 years ago, during which I pumped gas, cut lawns, ran messages and inspected fire extinguishers.

There are, however, two pieces of advice that Mr Ferguson might pass on to young British people. One is that whilst New York will certainly be an experience, it is not

quintessentially "American"; and secondly, it is certainly possible for students to obtain temporary work permits through organisations such as the British Universities' North America Club.

My own memorable experience was being left in charge of a gas station outside Philadelphia for an afternoon with a loaded revolver in the till drawer for company!

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS MCKEMEY, Principal, The Blackheath School of Art, 21 Lee Road, SE3, July 27.

From here to here

From Mrs B. Digby-Jones. Sir, Today the Post Office delivered to my door a book which I had sent by parcel post to my mother in Italy. It was addressed "to" my mother with the name and address in large block letters. My own name and address, surely necessary when posting a parcel abroad, were preceded by a decisive "from". When I took it to my local post office for an explanation, I was told that the string obscured the "from".

The Post Office Users' National Council, whom I telephoned, tried to comfort me with tales of worse experiences than mine — a correspondent in London recently had his parcel delivered back to him three times in a week.

The speed of such ping-pong reactions seems dazzling, compared to the 30 or so days it took the Post Office to move mine from and to South Kensington.

Yours faithfully, BARBARA DIOBY-JONES, 5 Dalmeny House, Thurloe Place, SW7, July 25.

Lessons in personal injury cases

From Mr David A. McIntosh. Sir, No one reading Frances Gibb's report ("£490,000 award in the case the lawyers spurned", August 2) could fail to be moved by the plight of the Blackburn family, who have had to wait 12 years for civil justice. No amount of tinkering with the way in which civil personal injury litigation is conducted will prevent some undue delay if the legal practitioners involved on behalf of plaintiffs are uncertain as to how to proceed.

Some of the recommendations of the Lord Chancellor's Civil Justice Review Board will, once implemented, undoubtedly reduce delay, particularly the recommendation that a court official or appointed judge should monitor the progress of cases once commenced.

Although the primary responsibility for efficiently prosecuting personal injuries litigation lies heavily upon the plaintiff's solicitors, it is not only the plaintiff and the courts who should be concerned over unnecessary delay. In my experience, the vast majority of defendants and their insurers dislike personal injury cases dragging their heels.

Awards of damages have, over recent years, risen markedly and the longer a case runs the more it costs by way of legal expenses on both sides. It is in the interests of defendants and defendants' practitioners not to allow undue delay, particularly as in most cases it is only too easy to blame defendants for it, even where the fault lies elsewhere.

They should always be exploring the possibility of out-of-court settlements which reflect the merits and likely values of claims but, if claims cannot be settled amicably, there are steps open to defendants' lawyers to ensure that cases are as quickly as possible pursued towards hearings. In some cases, defendants who feel confident as to the merits of their defence ought to be anxious to have their name cleared by way of judicial decision.

The only people who come well out of Mr Blackburn's case are his remarkable parents and the law firm who had the necessary expertise to take over the conduct of his claim and prevent it becoming an even greater tragedy. Yours sincerely, DAVID A. MCINTOSH, Davies Arnold & Cooper, 12 Bridewell Place, EC4.

Mendis replies

From Mr Viraj Mendis. Sir, Your article about me (Spectrum, August 2) does not deal with the central reason why I am in sanctuary. Instead it indulges in anti-communist propaganda.

I am in sanctuary because as a Sinhala Communist and a known supporter of the Tamil Liberation struggle, I face mortal danger from the Sri Lankan security forces and the Sinhala chauvinist death squads if I am forcibly deported to Sri Lanka. This is acknowledged by Amnesty International, the World Council of Churches and indeed by all those who have knowledge about the situation in Sri Lanka but have no vested interests in defending that regime.

Your article fails to describe the situation in Sri Lanka, a situation which has meant that even the English cricket team has decided not to go there a situation where during the last four years, 20,000 mainly Tamil people have been killed.

Apart from the racist attack on the Tamil people, the repressive legislation used by the security forces can be measured by the fact that in just one day (January 28, 1988) 1,154 Sinhalese were arrested by the special task force. Under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, those arrested can be held for 18 months without trial and their names need not be released.

On May 20, 1988, the Sinhalese chauvinist grouping, the JVP, issued a statement urging its supporters to "exterminate totally the treacherous rogues of all shades". Even 200 Sinhalese supporters of the ruling United national party have been assassinated during a period of nine months. What chance have I got?

Neither the Home Office nor your journalist have at any time sought to contest this evidence. Thankfully, the people of Hulme and Moss Side, for whom your journalist appears to have such

From Mr J. P. Armstrong. Sir, In common with other lawyers working in the field of medical negligence, I suspect that Keith Blackburn's bitter but eventually triumphant fight for justice is the successful tip of a tragic iceberg.

My firm recently brought to a speedy and successful conclusion a legally-aided case with striking similarities to that of Mr Blackburn's — an "oxygen" injury in 1976; difficulties over disclosure of documentation for many years; damages in the upper six-figure bracket; all coupled with a disappointing lack of determination by previous solicitors to convince themselves — never mind the client — that the case could be won.

Whilst in two minds about the Law Society's suggestion that there should be a register of approved medical negligence specialists, I am nevertheless convinced that there are certain guidelines that are so obvious as frequently to be ignored by practitioners and certainly not to be found in medico-legal text books:

1. Never believe anything you are told by your opponents without a double-check, least of all if they are a large bureaucracy such as a health authority.
2. Having obtained disclosure of all relevant documentation from one's opponents — which will consist of many hundreds of pages of photocopied technical medical scribble in many different hands and much of it barely legible — and having reached the conclusion that you do not fully understand its meaning, call in the appropriate medical expert immediately.
3. Always ensure that your "expert" evidence is expert in the specific field in which he is required to express an opinion.

Until no-fault compensation becomes law — it is many years overdue — one hopes that the above points will add to the encouragement that society and professional advisers should energetically give to the many potential Mr Blackburns.

Yours truly, JOHN ARMSTRONG, David Wineman (Solicitors), Craven House, 12 Kingsway, WC2, August 2.

contempt, have judged my case on its merits, not on anti-communist prejudice. Yours, VIRAJ MENDIS, Church of the Ascension, Royce Road, Hulme, Manchester M15.

From Mr David Burgess. Sir, I am the solicitor acting for Viraj Mendis. Brian James's article about his case comes at a time when the House of Lords is being approached for leave to appeal. The contemptuous tone of the article may be a matter for editorial control. However, one of the substantial misstatements it contained is as follows.

Mr James claims that the core of Viraj Mendis's case is that he is a refugee because, if returned, he would invite persecution. The principal point throughout the court proceedings has been the placing of apparently complete reliance on the confirmations given by the Sri Lankan High Commissioner.

The fundamental absurdity of ministers placing reliance upon statements by Government representatives as to whether one of their nationals will be persecuted, must be apparent to everyone. It is the view of the Representative of Refugees that ministers ought not to have relied upon the Sri Lankans to the extent that they have done.

The overall thrust of Mr James's article is that Viraj Mendis is involved in organised political struggle. That Viraj Mendis is a political activist is a fact, intimately related to the reasons for this well-founded fear of persecution. The discovery of political organisation around him is about as surprising as the realisation that the Conservative Party campaigned for Mrs Thatcher at the last election. Yours faithfully, DAVID BURGESS, Winstanley-Burgess (Solicitors), 378 City Road, EC1.

when a member of the Electricity Council dies, retires, or resigns and the secretary of state is unable or unready to appoint an immediate replacement.

A routine safeguard buried in the fine print of delegated legislation cannot be used to thwart a clear requirement of the primary Act, year in and year out.

A more fundamental point for all those who have reason to distrust the Electricity Council is that it could have demanded and even finally compelled the fulfilment of the statutory requirement for two deputy chairmen.

The Electricity Council is over-endowed in both membership and staff and I would be surprised if it actually needs two deputy chairmen in 1988, the thirtieth anniversary of its legal birth. But the public is entitled to expect a more scrupulous respect for Parliament's intentions from the governing body of this great national industry.

Yours faithfully, ROGER BARNARD (Secretary, London Electricity Consultative Council), 144 Fellows Road, NW3.

Anomalies on cars and petrol

From Mr Keith Mans, MP for Wyre (Conservative)

Sir, Over the next few weeks hundreds of thousands of new F-registered cars will be sold. Over half of them could, but will not, be tuned to run on unleaded petrol, largely because of customer ignorance and the ignorance of many dealers as well.

I have yet to see an advertisement for a new car which indicates whether or not it can run on unleaded fuel, despite the fact that virtually all new Fords and Vauxhalls, as well as many other makes, can be very simply converted to do so. In the case of Vauxhall the conversion is free of charge.

Is it not about time that all manufacturers informed new car purchasers whether or not their cars can be converted to run on unleaded fuel. After all it is 6p cheaper than four-star and makes little difference to the car's performance. What is also never mentioned is that cars converted to run on unleaded fuel can use leaded petrol as well.

Yours faithfully, KEITH MANS, House of Commons, August 1.

From Mr B. E. M. Bennie. Sir, The House of Commons Trade and Industry Committee, in its report (details, July 27) on its investigation into petrol retailing, has chosen to conclude that *de facto* resale price maintenance exists.

It argues that the petrol companies currently recommend retail prices, which garage owners cannot afford to reduce because their current profit margins are too low. At the same time, they cannot afford to increase them because, if they do, their sales would drop. This, too, would cost them money. So they do neither.

It seems to me that this must be a classic description of very precise, balanced, and effective competitive forces at work. By criticising this phenomenon and claiming that it illustrates oil company "price-fixing" (as the media inevitably reported it), the committee, though they don't know it, are actually arguing the case for higher prices to us motorists. At the same time they are presenting the oil companies as the only effective custodians of

price competition. Surely that cannot be their intention?

The committee argues that petrol retailers' gross margins, in the current range of 0.8 pence, do not produce adequate levels of price competition between competing sites. This was claimed by the Petrol Retailers Association in their evidence and the committee have fallen into the trap set for them.

The PRA, and now the committee, wish to see a wider range of petrol margins than from 0.8 pence. Wider margins can only be achieved by the PRA's members raising their petrol prices. This is what they have always wanted to do, but competition has prevented them achieving.

Do the committee really mean that the only way to increase competition is higher petrol prices for motorists? How can competition be increased in this way, when it is already competition that is preventing the PRA's members from raising their prices in the first place? Even if they could raise petrol prices, would this really be in the public interest? Surely not!

Yours faithfully, BRUCE BENNIE, Walnut Tree Cottage, North Warnborough, Hampshire, July 28.

From Mrs Susan C. Balsom. Sir, Could not a little panache accompany the annual rush for new registration cars on August 1? Perhaps a race to Beaujolais villages for La Voiture Nouvelle challenge? Yours faithfully, SUSAN C. BALSOM, Y Glyn, Llanfarian, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, July 30.

From Mr Alan Davidson. Sir, I wonder why one nasty little revolution has come about with no public reaction, though plenty of private i.e., garage where we have to get our own hands dirty and smelly while the vendor sits hygienically indoors and watches us fill up. It's getting quite difficult to avoid them. Yours faithfully, ALAN DAVIDSON, Coombe House, Packers Hill, Holwell, Sherborne, Dorset.

Dismissed lecturer

From the Pro-Chancellor and the Treasurer of Hull University

Sir, Mr Kevin McNamara, MP, speaking in the Commons, has described the dismissal of Mr Edward Page, the Hull University lecturer, as a consequence of the vice-chancellor's "hire-and-fire policy" (Parliamentary report, July 29). The decision to dismiss Mr Page was in fact that of the university's council, of which we are the chairman and deputy chairman, and of which the vice-chancellor is one member out of 42. The council has, over an extended period, clearly and consistently expressed its intention of implementing the university's academic and financial plans. For Mr McNamara to personalise the matter is deplorable.

Mr McNamara asks how Socrates would have fared at Hull. He should remember that Socrates, who was executed by the Athenians by being made to drink poison, might well have found early retirement with generous financial compensation and the opportunity to continue his activity as a philosopher a more attractive alternative.

Yours faithfully, T. H. F. FARRELL, Pro-Chancellor, W. L. BLACK, Treasurer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside.

Hormones in milk

From Mr Alan Long. Sir, Welfare of the primary producers — the cows — has received short shrift in the correspondence on use of injected artificial growth-hormone analogues, generically called BST (bovine somatotrophin), on animals reared for their milk and meat. Exploitation of the cow's maternal and reproductive functions in present methods already drives her to the verge of physiological breakdown.

Use of the BSTs can only intensify this stress, which will manifest itself when they are applied outside the present experimental herds to ordinary commercial stock.

Such technology is crass when the economics of milk call for reduced gallonages from low-input husbandry — with cows in meadows, not in yards or cubicles on concentrates.

Good wishes, ALAN LONG, The Vegetarian Society of the UK, 53 Marlow Road, W8.

Jumping the gun

From Miss Swapna Mehta. Sir, I feel even Mr Edward Raw (August 2) is fortunate, considering what I got. Just after my A-level examination was over, I received an invoice for the autumn term's fee from an American college which I had not even joined. All I had done was to show some interest in receiving their brochures for the Autumn term '88 two years ago. Yours sincerely, SWAPNA MEHTA, 18 Leigh Court, Byron Hill Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

Birkbeck closure

From Dr Francis Ames-Lewis and others

Sir, Academics at Birkbeck College welcome your leader (July 27). The proposed closure of the college's classics department would indeed be a major loss to the range of teaching and scholarship in humanities here and we hope that even now it can be avoided. Birkbeck College is the only institution in the UK at which students in full-time employment by day can take degree courses in the classics by evening study.

However, if the closure goes ahead, we intend none the less to continue to offer part-time classics degree courses by other means. Classicists from all other colleges of the University of London have been invited to collaborate with us in providing teaching in the classics for part-time students based at Birkbeck.

This plan marks the start of the future expansion of the college's degree-teaching activities into fields of study not otherwise available to part-time evening students. Yours faithfully, FRANCIS AMES-LEWIS (Head of Humanities Resources), ROLAND MAYER (Head of Classics Department), DAVID HAMLIN (Head of Philosophy Department), Birkbeck College, 43 Gordon Square, WC1.

Benn's battle

From Mr Gordon Wignall. Sir, Your interesting account of Mr Benn's renunciation of his peerage ("On This Day", August 1) necessarily obscured some of the elaborate dealings surrounding the constituency of Bristol South-East in the early 1960s.

Amongst them was a court case, brought by Mr Malcolm St Clair, in which it was held that 23,275 votes recorded for Mr Benn had been "thrown away" by the electorate (these were pre-Peage Act days and Mr Benn was not entitled to stand). Mr Benn represented himself throughout.

At the end of his judgement Mr Justice Gorman had these words to say of the respondent, which some may now find extremely distracting:

In the course of the delightful manner in which Mr Wedgwood Benn conducted his case he said words to this effect: "I have intended to make the House of Commons my career. It may be that I shall now have to get my living in some other way..." Having heard the magnificent way in which this case has been conducted by Mr Wedgwood Benn, this court has not the slightest doubt that there is another way.

Yours faithfully, GORDON WIGNALL, As from: 2 Essex Court, Temple, EC4.

Limited issue

From Mr R. B. Hoole. Sir, Should not our £10 notes carry a Government health warning, such as "These notes are liable to deteriorate, and holders are recommended to use them within six months?" Yours faithfully, R. B. HOOLE, Copper Coin, Priestlands, Sherborne, Dorset.



The Right Reverend John Taylor (Bishop of St. Albans) had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Lord High Almoner and received from Her Majesty the Badge of Office. His Excellency Dr. Marcello Marín and Señora de Marín were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave of Her Majesty, relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Costa Rica to the Court of St. James's. The Governor-General of Canada had the honour of being invited to luncheon with The Queen.

The Queen this afternoon visited St. Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, to mark its 21st Anniversary year.

Her Majesty was received on arrival by the Mayor of Bromley Council, Mr. J. W. C. B. being Lord Mayor and the Chairman of St. Christopher's Hospice (Dame Cicely Saunders).

Mrs John Dogdale, the Right Honourable William D. Leslie and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

CLARENDON HOUSE
August 3: Corporal of Horse D. C. F. Preece and Corporal of Horse E. G. R. Charlert today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother when Her Majesty, on behalf of The Queen, decorated them with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother celebrates her birthday today.

Mr G.H.R. Dick
and **Mrs J.S. Millar**
The engagement is announced between Graham Hugh Rose, younger son of Mr Peter Harry William Dick and the late Mary Dick, of Virginia Water, Surrey, and Miss Jean Millar, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Millar, of Milford on Sea, Hampshire.

Mr P.A. Forman
and **Miss C.M. Huber**
The engagement is announced between Paul Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs Eric Forman, of 10, St John's Road, Clacton-on-Sea, and Marie Huber, of Milford, Michigan, United States.

Mr G.M.A. Haincock
and **Miss E.L. Mainstone**
The engagement is announced between George Michael Haincock, younger son of Professor Arthur and Kathleen de Vincovourt (Ouse) Francis, of Der Carol Kidwell, of Sandstead, Surrey, and Katya Isabel, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Mainstone, of Krestova, near Leningrad, U.S.S.R.

Mr R.M. Harington
and **Miss P. Nadash**
The marriage took place on July 27 at Oxford, between Mr Robert Harington, son of Dr R.M. Harington, of East Sheen, London, SW16, and Miss Pamela Nadash, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Nadash, of Columbia MD, United States.

Captain G. Haslam
and **Miss J. Farquharson of Finzean**
The marriage took place on Saturday at Birse Church, Aberdeenshire, between Captain Guy Haslam, 35th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, and Miss Jean Farquharson of Finzean, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Angus Farquharson of Finzean. The Rev John Ferguson officiated, assisted by Mr John Forbes.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Victoria Forbes, Sarah Molander, Katie Gordon, Gemma Barrow, Jeanne Faulkner and Edward Barrow. Captain Patrick Walker was best man. A guard of honour was formed by warrant officers of the bridegroom's regiment.

The reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in

Vice-Admiral Sir Patrick Bayly, 74; Mr Paul Bayly, violinist, 67; Mr David Bedford, composer, 65; Mr William Cooper, 61; Mrs Helen, 78; Sir Rustam Feroze, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 68; Professor R.L. Freeman, psychiatrist, 51; Sir George Gaskell, former chairman of the Health Education Council, 80; Air Marshal Sir Victor Groom, 90; Miss George Hale, actress, 45; General Sir Reginald Hewitson, 80; Sir Harold Hobbs, 80; Sir John Hobbs, 80; Rachel Jones, former chairman, Broadcasting Council for Wales, 80; Mr David Laage, Prime Minister of New Zealand, 46; Mr Simon Preston, 62; Mr Peter Preston, 50; Mr Peter Rotherham, 66; Halifax Building Society, 64; Dr A. W. Spence, endocrinologist, 58; Mr Peter Squires, rugby player, 37; Sir

BIRTHS: John Tradescant, gardener, Meopham, Kent, 1608; Edward Irving, founder of the Catholic Apostolic Church, 1792; John W. Shelley, Field Place, Horsham, Sussex, 1792; W. H. Hudson, writer and naturalist, near Buenos Aires, 1894; Knut Hamsun, novelist and poet, Norderhov, 1829; Harry Lauder, 1859; Sir Percy James, Edinburgh, 1870.

DEATHS: Simon de Montfort, 12th Earl of Leicester, killed at the battle of Evesham, 1265; William Cecil, Baron Burghley, statesman, London, 1598; Hans von Reizenstein, 18th century, 1748; Heinrich Heine, 1830; James Cruise, film director, Hollywood, 1942; Rodney (Gipsy) Smith, evangelist, at sea, 1947.

REMARKS: Heinrich Heine was a German Jew who died on Germany, 1914.

An English vineyard has brought off a major trading coup by winning a prestigious export order to supply France's top wine merchant.

Elmhurst Park in Norfolk has just dispatched 200 cases of its 1986 dry white wine to Nicolas, the leading Parisian wine merchant. It is the first time the company has stocked an English wine.

East African Association
The Prime Minister of Mau-
Mauitis was the guest of honour at
a luncheon given yesterday by
the East African Association at
the Charing Cross Hotel. Mr
G.H. Moody-Stuart, chairman,
was the host and Mr J.W.
Mourdin, vice-chairman, also
spoke.

ANNABELINDA
DRESS DESIGNERS
HALF SALE
PRICE
DAY
Irresistible reductions for
ONE DAY ONLY
Suits Custom Dress
£39 0 0 £49 0 0
Suits, Jockeys, Dresses & Jacket
£20 0 0 £25 0 0
£39 0 0 £49 0 0
£12 0 0 £15 0 0
SAUNDERS ON AUGUST
At Number 38,
Gloucester St.,
Oxford,
Gloucestershire.

Princess Andrew of Greece, mother of the Duke of Edinburgh, was reinterred yesterday, in the Russian Orthodox Church of St Mary Magdalene, on the slopes of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, nineteen years after her death.

It had been her last wish, at the time of her death at Buckingham Palace in 1969, to be buried there next to her aunt, Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, a granddaughter of Queen Victoria and sister-in-law of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia.

But political and religious complications had compelled her body to lie for nearly two decades at temporary rest in the royal vault of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

In a private ceremony attended only by Princess George of Hanover, the Duke of Edinburgh's sister and the eldest surviving member of the family, the Dean of Windsor and his wife, Mr Ivan Callan, the British consul-general in Jerusalem and his family, Mr Christopher Kenyon, the royal funeral director from Windsor, and a knot of Russian Orthodox monks, Princess Andrew's remains were placed in a specially prepared crypt below the stairs leading up to the onion-domed White Russian Church.

Neither the Duke nor any other member of the British royal family was present, to ensure that no political controversy marred the brief ceremony.

A delicate political problem surrounded her wish to be buried in East Jerusalem, whose annexation by Israel after its capture in the 1967 Six Day War has still not been recognized by the British government.

A further ecclesiastical difficulty was

The Duchess of Westminster, accompanied by her children, Lady Tamara Grosvenor and Lady Edwina Grosvenor, enjoying an airy form of transport around their 10,000 estate at Eaton Hall, Cheshire. The 200cc Honda motor cycle was a present from her husband (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

By KERRY GILL

Seabird populations in the Shetland Isles have suffered their most disastrous breeding season ever recorded with tens of thousands of young chicks dying from starvation.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds yesterday said that lack of food appeared to be the main cause of the "unprecedented disaster".

Among the worst affected species are Arctic terns, Arctic skuas, puffins, kittiwakes, red-throated divers and great skuas. The vast majority of great skua chicks on the island of Foula, the largest colony in the world, have died with the remainder in poor health.

Mr Frank Hamilton, director of the RSPB in Scotland, said the situation next year could be even worse. He has called for an urgent meeting with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland.

One theory is that there has been overfishing of sandeels, a major food source for the birds.

seabirds. Sandeels have been fished commercially around Shetland since 1974 and are processed into fish meal and feed pellets for poultry and fish farming. A similar problem affecting puffins and razorbills off the Norwegian coast has been attributed to the fall in sandeel due to overfishing.

Mr Hamilton said that it was this was the reason, the RSPB was calling for a ban on sandeel fishing in the waters around Shetland. The society and the Nature Conservancy Council have funded research by Glasgow University into the breeding failures of the terns on Shetland.

Mr Peter Ellis, the society's Shetland officer, said: "Failures on this scale have never been witnessed in United Kingdom waters before. This is an unprecedented disaster. Colonies that normally have thousands of chicks hold only a handful."

32,000 pairs of Arctic terns of Shetland, more than 40 per cent of the British and Irish population, but numbers are reckoned to have plummeted by up to 70 per cent.

Total breeding failure has occurred among kittiwakes of the east, south and south west coast of Shetland, and on Foula, where there were 48,000 pairs of puffins last year, breeding failure has also been almost 100 per cent.

In the quarter of the British population of red-throated divers live on Shetland. This year the number of chicks has fallen by about half. Mr Hamilton said the RSPB has noticed that all was not well in Shetland for the past five years with many terns either not laying or deserting their nests.

"This year it is much worse affecting a bigger range of birds. Many adults arrived and did not even attempt to nest, some laid but deserted their eggs while others de-

Earl Russell, of Portmeau Court, elder son of Lord Russell, the philosopher, left estate valued at £269,605 net.

Mr Alexander Thomson Gordon, of Eastbourne, East Sussex, left estate valued at £1,075,992 net.

Mr David Trevel, of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire, orthopaedic surgeon and pioneer of hip replacements, left estate valued at £185,609 net.

Mrs Elizabeth Alice Shaw, of Muirhead, Glasgow, left estate valued at £1,337,379 net.

Mr Raymond Henry Williams, of Saffron Walden, Essex, Marxist cultural historian and novelist, left estate valued at £88,698 net.

Alice Mary Bowden, of Reading, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,077,379 net.

Mr Rupert Norton, of Rugley, Staffordshire, left estate valued at £1,100,734 net. He left his estate to relatives.

Mrs Brenda Yeoman, of Kirkby Overblow, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £1,895,731 net. She left her estate mostly to relatives.

Barren bars

The National Eisteddfod's coveted prose medal and prize will not be awarded this year because of the competitors had written anything of the standard required, the or-

[illegible]

Mr Raymond Carver, gifted short-story writer, poet and influential stylist of plain American speech, has died of cancer at the age of 50. He was widely regarded as the laureate of America's unhappy and disappointed.

Brought up in a religious orphanage, he himself worked in many menial jobs—janitor, bartender, navy among others. He listened carefully to what he heard and, when he became a writer, used his experiences to create a new voice for American fiction. He was arguably as influential for young United States writers today as Ernest Hemingway had been in the 1920s and 1930s.

Towards the end of his life his influence began to cross the Atlantic. His death is a serious loss to the development of English language fiction.

Although not a politically motivated writer, he had a deep understanding of the poor and underprivileged and had learned the hard way to express it unsentimentally. His long and winning battle with alcoholism, too, influenced his work in an unsentimental way.

Carver began publishing in the late 1960s with the poetry in *Near Klamath* (1968) and *Winter Insomnia* (1970), but

he did not become well-known until more than a decade later and this was for the short stories in *Will You Please Be Quiet, Please* (1976).

His high status as story writer with the collection *When We Talk About Women* and *What Talk About Love* (1981) earned him a Guggenheim Award in 1978, and the Strauss Literary Award in 1983.

Carver latterly had achieved a remarkable and elegant simplicity. He was as assured and sincere as his great predecessor, Sherwood Anderson, although he had a narrower range. His dialogue mirrors the rhythms of everyday life, taking the common place mysteriously above itself.

Born in Clatskanie, Oregon, he got an education at Humboldt State University and subsequently taught at the universities of California, Iowa, Texas and Syracuse.

Carver could occasionally slip into the banal, usually in his verse. But he was exceptional as a writer in being minor in an age that, perhaps vainly, strains for the major.

A new collection of his short stories is to be published in this country later this month.

Carver had been married and divorced. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

George Warner Allen, a painter whose convictions never permitted him to stray from the classical tradition, died on July 31 at the age of 72.

A passionate admirer of the Old Masters with no use whatsoever for modern art, Warner Allen devoted himself single-mindedly to painting religious, allegorical and other imaginative subjects, often on a large scale and always in an elaborate oil and tempera technique based on classical methods of these masters' methods.

One might have been meeting a Pre-Raphaelite, or at least an artist of the generation of Charles Ricketts, whose memorial exhibition in 1933 had moved him deeply.

He was acutely aware of his isolation, and would often quote his master Ernest Jackson who, in 1938, hearing him lament the implications for art of the coming cataclysm, had replied: "I know, Allen, I know, but just keep the place warm."

This, he would say, had been the spirit in which he had done his life's work. Nonetheless his views, though trenchant, were not bitter; he was stimulating company.

Born in 1866, Warner Allen attended Lancing College before entering the Byam Shaw School of Art on the advice of the painter and decorative artist Robert Anning Bell.

It was there that he encountered Jackson, one of the

finest teachers of his day.

In 1892 a large show of his work was held at Walker's Gallery, New Bond Street, moving to the Reading Art Gallery the following year.

These paintings, which included religious and pastoral subjects, portraits, war memorials and works in homage to such "bods" for him as Titian and Alfred Stevens, proved popular; buyers included the Reading and Nottingham Art Galleries and, among private collectors, T. S. Eliot and John Bejerman.

For the next eight years he was unable to paint, devoting himself to teaching art and caring for his elderly parents.

When inspiration returned, his style changed, becoming severer in mood and brighter in tone.

In 1913 he was received into the Roman Catholic Church; from then on he concentrated almost entirely on religious subjects, including a set of Stations of the Cross, only recently completed.

Many found the later paintings unsympathetic, and regretted the loss of his more lyrical early manner.

In his last years Warner Allen found himself rediscovered by a group of young scholars and enthusiasts, interested in his work.

He began to sell his pictures again, and two were seen in the exhibition *A Paradise Lost* held at the Barbican Art Gallery last year.

He was unmarried.

Ellen Berlin, who died on July 29 at the age of 85, was a novelist and short story writer who contributed over many years to a number of popular American magazines.

The wife of the songwriter Irving Berlin, who celebrated his hundredth birthday in May, she had contributed numerous articles to *The New Yorker* and her marriage in 1926 to the famous songwriter.

She had been a celebrated New York debutante but repudiated the exclusive society life surrounding her rich family for the more cosmopolitan life of society of the 1920s era.

Her marriage to Berlin, who was 25 years her senior and a widower, combined her preference for the roaring twenties over what she called the "dull old days" incurred the wrath of her wealthy father, who had cherished hopes of a glittering social wedding for his daughter.

The rift lasted for five years, when she was reunited with her father; the marriage endured for over sixty years and Mr. Berlin wrote several of his most famous songs to her, including "Always" and "The Song Is Ended."

During the 1930s she began contributing short stories to *The Saturday Evening Post*, *The Ladies Home Journal* and other magazines. Her first novel, *"Land I Have Chosen"*, was published in 1944. She wrote three other novels, the last - *"The Best of Families"* - heirs to the title.

By Antony Miall writes:

the obituary of Bishop Guy Sanderson (July 27) it was noted that one of his favourite creations was music and he "delighted to play from memory the 'hits' of the 1930s. It may be worthwhile pointing out the bishop's father, Wilfrid Ernest Sanderson, had in fact composed a fair number of these 'hits' himself."

Wilfrid Sanderson was one of the early twentieth century's most prolific and famous

professional composers of popular songs. Many of his compositions are still well-known today.

Foremost among these — perhaps sadly, more thanks to advertising than home music-making — is the ballad — "We've come up from Somerset, where the cider apples grow."

The ferment in the popular music world caused by that and many other songs made Bishop Sanderson's choice of music as recreation the most

By Kerry Gill

The Feast of the Transfiguration falls this week, along with the 33rd anniversary of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima.

The feast is not born on Lord MacLeod of Fuinar, the pacifist and visionary, who today will attend the 50th anniversary of the Iona Community on the island where St Columba landed in the sixth century.

The Very Rev Lord MacLeod will take part in a service of dedication to the new Education MacLeod Centre which will be open, and will provide accommodation for the thousands of young pilgrims who visit Iona every year.

Lord MacLeod, aged 93, was a Church of Scotland minister in Govan, a down at heel area of Glasgow, when he decided to

devise a training scheme for ministers working in urban communities. He and a handful of ministers and local craftsmen began rebuilding the ruined abbey on Iona, originally founded by the Benedictines in the 12th century.

The rebuilding was completed in 1967. He felt that theological studies should be 'sanctified and wanted to encourage people to visit Iona and, literally, get their hands dirty acting as labourers to the craftsmen.'

The Community, born in 1938, was at first for Presbyterian men, but now is made up of men and women, lay and ordained, and from different denominations ranging from Quakers to Roman Catholics.

Today's jubilee celebrations will be attended by Mrs Leah-Tutu, wife of Bishop Desmond Tutu, who arrived by helicopter.

THE 4

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THE TIM

Please teleph
announcement

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Concern over seal virus

Scientists have taken off a bold coast to see if a virus that spread to our shores in the form, thought to be spread in the common cold or foot and mouth disease, has already killed the lives of thousands of seals around Europe.

Staff at the Sea Mammal Unit in Cambridge, England, are worried that the virus could spread to seals in both the North and the wild. Big seals have been seen swimming in Dutch and German waters, but the virus has not been found.

THE ARTS

THEATRE

Curve broken

Artist Descending a Staircase
King's Head Theatre

Originally a radio play, Stoppard's typically ingenious piece has now had an interval rammed into its middle, and although fringe theatres do have to sell drinks, an artistic error is still an error. As written, the play curves gracefully from the present day (1972), back through a sequence of scenes to 1914 and forward again along the same route, to finish almost exactly where it begins. To break the curve at the far point even for the sake of a refilled glass during the second, much shorter, half, is an irritation that should be corrected at once.

Unlike Duchamp's "Nude Descending a Staircase" — wittily alluded to around the back of Martin Chitt's set — Stoppard's "Artist" has descended once and for all, and is lying with a broken neck at the bottom. How he came to be there is disclosed at the finish, but this whodunit business is only the lead-in to a defter story of three artists, painter, sculptor and musician, and the blind girl who loved one of them, mistaking him for one of the others.

As originally written, the play resourcefully dug into the box of radio tricks, making denouements depend upon characters being variously blind to reality, actually or metaphorically. Sophie (Sarah Woodward) goes to live with the artist she saw, in the last days of her sight, standing in front of a painting of black railings against snow, not realizing that the man she really loved was the one standing in front of white boards painted against black.

The transfer to the stage brings more gains than losses. But the scene changes are awkward and the joke of a man seemingly on horseback who turns out to be clacking coconut shells is a different and lesser joke when you see him winking the coconuts from the beginning.

A great gain is the visible anguish of the rejected young men, contrasting with the face of the unimpressed victor. Tim Luscombe's direction is aided by the quite extraordinary physical likenesses between the three young actors playing the 1914 characters, and the older three who play them 60 years on. The stricken John Warnaby will undoubtedly grow into Frank Middlemass, the suavity of young Gareth Tudor Price becomes coarser but remains destructive in the mature Peter Copley; and the old bumbler (William Lucas) is foreshadowed in the youthful Karl James, whose eccentric map-reading leads a holiday walking party into the opening battle of World War One.

This scene's thematic link with the rest of the play may be slender but it is sublimely comic to watch the young men rationalizing the irruption of troop carriers and soldiers digging trenches — "Pipeline?" — until the bombardment explodes around their astonished, still unbelieving faces.

Jeremy Kingston

David Robinson sees Nic Roeg and Dennis Potter trading in comic strip Freud



The train set: neurotic wife Theresa Russell and demonic boy Gary Oldman find no peace among the model trains in Nicolas Roeg's *Track 29*

Are they kidding?

In *Track 29* we have a collaboration between Dennis Potter as writer and Nicolas Roeg as director. They are evidently sympathetic temperaments. Both are intrigued by the shadow side of the psyche, by sex and violence in combination, by reversion to infantilism. This is the stuff of *Track 29*.

It is essentially a playful essay on infantilism, comic strip Freud. When they are not bickering, which is mostly, Linda (Theresa Russell) and Henry (Christopher Lloyd) habitually communicate in baby talk. Henry is given to retreating to his attic, full of model trains; and is the leading light in a society of like-minded train layout enthusiasts. At the geriatric hospital where he works, he enjoys having his bottom spanked by the rubber-gloved hands of Nurse Stein (Sandra Bernhard). Linda, for her part, fills the bedroom with baby dolls.

Hitch-hiking into town is a very odd English youth (Gary Oldman), wearing a kind of baby bonnet, recurrently lapsing into baby talk, and from time to time yelling in anguish for his mother. In a diner, Linda meets the boy — called Martin, like the very similar interloper in *Brimstone and Treacle*, Potter's banned and subsequently screened television play. Thereafter Martin invades her life, accusing and abusing her, sexually teasing and tempting, insisting he is the child she abandoned 20 years ago, a bastard spawned by a passing carnival man who had the word "Mother" tattooed on his chest.

Both Potter and Roeg delight in gratuitous mystification. At first other people see Martin, but later he seems to exist only in Linda's mind, though the twisted and agile thoughts he expresses could hardly be the product of her stunted intellect.

As the plot progresses, the games of now-you-

CINEMA

Track 29 (15)
Lumière St Martin's Lane

Hawks (15)
Odeon Haymarket

see-it-now-you-don't grow more complex, leaving the viewer at the end with a wide-open choice of possibilities. He is left, moreover, to puzzle on his own why Linda, a woman remade by the therapy of the strange visitor, strange events and the possibility that she has (or has not, as the case may be) committed murder, suddenly emerges in *Fifties* costume having hitherto been dressed in normal contemporary style. This kind of wilful mystification is more in the nature of Roeg than Potter, who generally favours a didier sort of resolution.

Theresa Russell, increasingly resembling Louise Fletcher in looks and style, is an authentically neurotic Linda; though it is Gary Oldman's demonic boy who compels most of the attention.

Roeg and Potter, it must be said, have also in common the slight-of-hand of very proficient entertainers. Potter with the serpentine entanglements of his dialogue; Roeg with the surprises of his images and the speed and complexities of his narrative editing. With each of them, it is only afterwards that the spectator finds himself asking what, if anything at all, it was all about.

Track 29 ends up in fact as a rather odd, between-two-stools film (significantly it has hung about since last year waiting for release),

offering rather less than the modicum of excitement for an exploitation thriller, but equally falling rather short of expectations of art-house product.

Hawks revives the dying-from-cancer movie, recently in vogue (more, one imagines, with film makers than filmgoers); but taking it uncomfortably into the realms of black farce.

It starts off reasonably soberly, promising something on the lines of *Whose Life is it Anyway?*, with the encounter of an eccentric English solicitor of sardonic humour (Timothy Dalton) and a suicidal American football player (Anthony Edwards) in the terminal cancer ward. Predictably the Englishman, who is an older hand at dying, bullies and cajoles the other into facing what is left of his life with courage and defiance.

Abruptly, however, the script takes a turn for the worse and careers off into the neater-berthand of British comedy (the writer, Roy Clarke, is a veteran of television series comedy), as the lads steal an ambulance and go off to Amsterdam — presented as the Englishman's erotic Mecca — for a final fling; in the mythology of film comedy, terminal invalids, like schoolboys, are possessed by the compulsion to get laid. As arbitrary as the rest of the film is the production of an odd couple of English girls (Janet McTeer and Camille Cordun) to provide the ultimate, if offbeat, emotional solace.

By this time the film is sliding all over the place, its alternation of comic and heavy emotional tone quite out of control. The director was Robert Ellis Miller (who had better luck with *Reuben, Reuben*); the idea of a kind of *Carry on in the Cancer Ward* originated with Beebe Barry Gibb and his writing partner David English. Ian Botham's companion on his charity fund-raising Hannibal walk.

Tasteful tedium

TELEVISION

Screenplay — Eskimos Do It (BBC2) gave the standard bedpan drama a newish wrinkle. Instead of coaching the neophyte Mrs Bing (Jean Boht) in the art of facing terminal cancer with fortitude, Mrs Dewey (Liz Fraser) showed her by example how to long for release through suicide. In the end the former, being more mobile, achieved this goal for them both, which conveyed a left-handed species of heroism to balance the grumbling righteous subtext of NHS under-funding.

Jim Barton's stagey script emitted few clues to the particular identity of his creatures as distinct from their function in his jigsaw, which was all too apparent. If anything held the audience it will have been the promise of a climactic euthanasia party chez Mrs B where, surrounded by her family and a lethal stockpile of morphine and "mother's ruin", the mother did a Captain Oates or (see title) an Inuit. Tastefully and damagingly, the party went unshown when it might have redeemed the preceding hour of well-acted tedium.

The second leg of *Armada* (also BBC2) showed more teeth than Monday's opener. Concentrating on the technical aspects of the great fleet's progress up the Channel, we met sundry coastguards, boatbuilders and tidal rips. Stuck with unhandy vessels and still waiting for the ship-to-shore radio to be invented, the Spanish captains must have rued the standing proscription on swearing and blasphemy on board.

We can be sure that Frobisher's "rabble" turned the air blue when Drake sneaked off to claim a crippled galleon for his own profit, but this earnestly informative series has so far made too much of its debunking brief in a whole summer of such activity. Were you surprised to learn, for instance, that the story of Drake's cannibalism circling the globe to thwart his wife's bigamy is actually a myth?

Martin Cropper

Wealth of women

DANCE

Kirov Ballet
Business Design Centre,
Islington

A charming but adequate auditorium has been constructed inside the Business Design Centre, which is off Upper Street by Islington Green. The audience of 3,500 has to use one small entrance so arrive early. The show is well worth seeing.

It lasts three hours, beginning with *Les Sylphides*, in which the women are all good, but Yevgeny Neff, in the solitary man role on Tuesday night, had to rely more on style than technique. The company seems hard hit by a recent injury to Alexander Lanyev, who was due for several leading roles.

The climax at the end is the divertissement from *Paquita*, here enlarged to include some extra solos. So you have no fewer than six big solos in a row, nicely contrasted and producing a crescendo of effect as some of the company's brightest young hopefuls (Julia Makhmalina and Veronika Ivanova in the second and third entries), are succeeded by the more experienced Yelena Yevryeva, Tatyana Terkhova and Olga Chenchikova.

Add in the *pas de trois*, little seen in Britain, which provides roles for a further group of soloists, with some of Petipa's liveliest dances for the supporting ensemble of women, and you have a most exhilarating sequence. But there is very little male dancing in it; less than in their Paris season last winter, again presumably because of Lanyev's absence.

Still, the middle part of the evening included Ruzmetova with Ashtemurova in a stinky, glamorous version of the *Don Quixote* duet, and two lively lads named Igor Petrov and Andrei Garbuz in a comic number created by the brothers Legat for *The Fairy Doll* in 1903.



Yevgeny Neff: style not technique

There were also Irina Kolpakova, still marvellously delicate in movement in a duet from *Le Papillon*; Galina Mezentseva showing marvellously expressive arms in *The Dying Swan*; and Yevryeva, making much of a number where the gypsy, Estimelda, has to dance at her lover's wedding to another.

Perhaps most interesting is the *pas de six* from *La Vivandière*, a brilliant display number with choreography by Arthur Saint-Leon. Sergei Viktorov dances the male lead with splendid leaps and beats. All the publicity mentioned Irina Chistyakova as his partner; so it shows the Kirov's strength in young women that she was switched at this performance to the *Paquita pas de trois* and replaced with superb assurance and flying virtuosity by Yelena Pankova.

John Percival

Final note is false

Götterdämmerung
Bayreuth

Harry Kupfer must have been quietly enjoying himself these last few days, being greeted by boos nowhere beyond the polite norm, and knowing all the while that the reaction was going to be very different when we got to the end of the cycle. For here, after the green laser Rhine has come flooding forward, the gold been recaptured and Hagen drowned, suddenly the chorus come rushing on, and it is hard to make out what is going on until — yes, a tableau.

There are five groups of ladies and gents in 1940s cocktail attire standing watching television sets, with their backs turned on a crowd of others flailing arms desperately as they stagger into the flames. Contrary to rumours that may already be circulating, there are no swastika-embellished guards encouraging them in, but there might as well be. Finally a little boy helps a little girl away from the scene, and Alberich-Wotan (I will come to him later) turns his sombre look on the house.

The audience response was predictable in its noisy division — indeed, so predictable that one might wonder whether Kupfer had his eyes on producing a stage spectacle or an audience scandal. That suspicion alone detracts from his achievement, but one might well have other worries, such as the music being used against its will, such as the point is a pretty crude and dusty one to be making in 1988, such as the Holocaust is not something to be quoted for the sake of a *coup de théâtre*.

The ending also works, to return to smaller matters, specifically against this *Ring*, in suggesting that the whole point of the production is contained in its last 0.1 per cent, and in betraying a theatrical mind that has shown itself steadfast and intelligent, even if there have been a few clues to what we might expect.

OPERA

Paul Griffiths finds
the musically
and dramatically
convincing new Ring
cycle undermined
by its last image

Happily there is more evidence of Kupfer's high qualities in this *Götterdämmerung*, especially earlier in the third act. When Siegfried has told of Mime's death, Hagen in his pretended enjoyment tosses his spear to Gunther, who holds it for a moment appalled at being given responsibility, before Hagen snatches it contemptuously back. But at least Gunther has been alerted to what is going on: he holds Siegfried, uselessly, for the next portion of his narration, until Hagen clears the killing zone.

Then when Siegfried eventually falls for the last time it is so that he can be received into the pit that had opened at Wotan's cry of "das Ende!" in *Die Walküre*. Wotan himself then comes to kneel at the side of the bole, and Brünnhilde appears opposite him; this is an original and immensely powerful bringing together of the main actors in the *Ring* at its climax of catastrophe.

Indeed, not only is Wotan there but Alberich too, since by this stage Alberich has adopted the shabby grey coat of the Wanderer, just as Hagen has taken over the lustrous black and the spear of the *Walküre* Wotan. Individualities are disintegrating: this is something contained in the surface of the drama in Siegfried's masquerade as Gunther, and in the music in the more complex, mantic metamorphoses of *Götterdämmerung*. But Kupfer's

extension of the idea is striking and suggestive.

Hans Schavermoch's additions to his basic set are less useful here than in *Siegfried*: a high platform on metal stairways is well used for Hagen's dream and the oaths of Siegfried and Brünnhilde, but the surrounding screens and the Rhinemaidens' scene vehicle are unnecessary. One only needs the runway, and the strong side lighting by Manfred Voss that makes this a *Ring* so much of silver reflections and deep shadows.

Among the cast, Deborah Polaski has trouble well before the last scene: Waltraud Meier's performance as Waltraute is almost embarrassing in showing what a voice of fine-tuned steel really sounds like.

Reiner Goldberg as Siegfried sounds bright but constrained and careless against the recent memory of Jerusalem in *Siegfried*. There is a ripe-toned Guttrune from Eva-Maria Bundschuh, a bleak, impassive Hagen from Philip Kang, and an appropriately weary, bleached Alberich from Günter von Kannen.

The orchestral performance under Daniel Barenboim is now extraordinarily more firm and powerful, without losing the polyphony of recollections, contained in the movie interplay: the accompaniment of Brünnhilde's memories in the second act is exemplary in this respect.

This is, then, a *Ring* of growing orchestral sureness, of generally fine and certainly well characterized singing, and of great scenic intensity suddenly nose-diving. In its final evening it also gives cause to celebrate the Bayreuth chorus, who perform a complicated production with total assurance while singing mightily.

They are also a strong feature of the *Parzifal* revival, which James Levine continues to conduct with very much the same cast as in his recording, but with Jerusalem under to out-do himself in the middle act.

John Hammond
Mean Fiddler

Following his appearance last weekend at the most successful Cambridge Folk Festival for 10 years, John Hammond this week delighted a select gathering in the more enclosed environs of the Mean Fiddler's Acoustic Room.

Now in his mid-forties, the American blues singer has survived a career during which great things have tended to remain hovering round the corner. He was an early collaborator with Robbie Robertson and Levon Helm of the Band and hobnobbed with those on the fringes of the Sixties beat boom. But his past passion for the blues has kept him away from the rock mainstream.

The striking feature of his performance was its intensity. Sitting alone on a stool, an acoustic guitar on his knee and a harmonica rack round his neck, he played and sang like a man possessed. One elegantly-shod foot bashed out an erratic tattoo on the wooden stage, while his fingers whacked out percussive picking and slide patterns on the guitar. Above corded neck muscles, his

ROCK

face contorted round the harmonica through which he blew pure high notes, pausing only momentarily to gulp for air, like a swimmer on the turn.

His warm, soulful voice was redolent of the white blues singing style of Peter Green, in a long engaging set boasting a wide range of tempos and styles within a traditional, country blues framework. The material was uniformly old: "Spoonful", "Come On In My Kitchen", "It Hurts Me Too", "I Can't Be Satisfied" and much more obscure items. Neither fashionable nor an originator, Hammond remains a dedicated and inspired archivist who is well worth a look.

David Sinclair

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY

- ★ Seats available
★ Returns only
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BABES IN ARMS:** "My Furry Valentine", "Lady is a Tramp", and other favourites in high-spirited Rodgers/Hart musical. Open Air Theatre, Regents Park, NW1 (01-486 2431). Tube: Baker Street. In repertory with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 2.30pm, and Sat 4-7pm, £5.50-£16.50.

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS:** Return of Willy Russell's Best Musical of 1983, with Kiki Dee as the mother of twins who gives one away and lives to regret it. Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 2.30pm, and Sat 4-7pm, £5.50-£16.50.

★ **DON'T GO AWAY MAD:** US actor Michael Moriarty in first production over here of William Saroyan's hospital play of 1948. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham St, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tube: Covent Garden. Press night tonight, 7-9.45pm. Then Mon to Sat 7.30-10.15pm, mats Wed and Sat 4-7pm, £5.50-£16.50.

★ **HAPGOOD:** Puzzling new Tom Stoppard play. Spies, physics and misunderstandings, with Nigel Hawthorne, Roger Rees, Felicity Kendal and Ian Glen. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych WC2 (01-836 6404). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mats Wed 2.30-5.30pm and Sat 4-7pm, £5-14.50.

★ **THE RECRUITING OFFICER:** Jim Broadbent as casualty Sgt Kite in a strongly cast production of Farquhar's tough comedy. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745). cc 01-838 2428. Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Fri 8.15-10.15pm, Sat 8-10.30pm, mats Sat 4-6.30pm.

★ **YOO HEEVY BY HALF:** Adam Gillett plays the cleverly-tongued rascal in marvellously inventive production of Ostrovsky's satiric comedy. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-825 7816). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30 and Sat 4pm, £4-14.50.

★ **UNCLE VANYA:** Michael Gambon, Jonathan Pryce and Imelda Staunton splendid in Michael Bleaney's Chekhov revival. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-858 9588). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon to Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Wed 2.30, Sat 4pm, £7.50-£21.50.

OUT OF TOWN

★ **STRATFORD:** The Tempest: John Wood in superb form as Prospero in fine production by Nicholas Hytner. Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, 27-29 295223. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.20pm, £4.50-£27.50.

★ **SCARBOROUGH:** Edward's Elms Priestley's favourite play, as a doctor's prodigal daughter in Edwardian Yorkshire. Stephen Joseph Theatre-in-the-round, (0723 570541). Ends Sat, 24.50, then Fri, 22.50.

WORD-WATCHING

ANAGRAMS (from page 16)

CYNCEITS
(a) Hunting, the chess, from the Greek *kun-* dog, or rather hound, and *ageneis* a leader. "There are excess of his in Greek four books of Cynceits or variation."

LIBANOPHOROUS
(a) Producing lacquer, scented, from the Greek *liban-* the lacquer-incense-tree and *phoros* bearing. "He cradled his head to his neck, breathing her libanophorous hair."

DELPHINET
(a) Young dolphin, from the Latin *delphinus* a dolphin. "You cannot demand publicity on the part of a delphinet."

CAKE COURSE
(a) In US education an easy course taken at college, as in a piece of cake, or much of the GCSE.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1633

ACROSS

- English horn (3,7)
- Resumé (7)
- Eyelashes (5)
- Roaming discovery (1-13)
- Detained (8)
- Oath (5)
- Tight (5)
- Pre-med drink (8)
- Murder (2,2)
- Sharpen by friction (5)
- Closet (7)
- Malicious campaign (7,3)

DOWN

- Man horse (7)
- Space (4)
- Non-acquiescence (13)
- Site (8)
- Freely rotating pulley (5)
- Long-horned antelope (4)
- Scarcely (6)
- Intermittent (8)
- Rush attack (6)
- Commonplace saying (7)
- Heather, henth (5)
- Repute (4)
- Mecca pilgrimage (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1632

ACROSS: 3 Mope, 5 Slim, 8 Adage, 10 Tricolour, 11 Chair, 12 Out, 13 Dray, 14 Hecate, 15 Rubella, 18 Force, 20 Mil, 22 Ounce, 23 Signal, 24 Drill, 25 Need, 26 Pass.

DOWN: 1 Rancid, 2 Catamount, 3 Metropolitan, 4 Flinch, 6 Loom, 7 Mortal, 9 House of Lords, 15 Forensic, 16 Reason, 17 Amelia, 19 Evely, 21 Ague.

ENTERTAINMENTS

EVENTS

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mats Wed and Sat 4-7pm, £5.50-
£16.50.

FILMS

Also on national release
★ Advance booking possible

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Disappointingly flat sequel to the
runaway Aussie hit, with Paul Hogan
repeating his role as the king of the
outback (112 min).

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Checkovian riches: above, Brian Cox and (from top) Stella Gonet, Harriet Walter and Deborah Findlay

★ **CHRIS WILLIAMS:** The astrologer/haunter leads a quartet specializing in bebop and modern themes.

Band On The Run, 25 Swan Street, Manchester (061 822 6625). Doors open 8.30pm, £2.50.

★ **ALL HANDEL:** Dennis Darrow conducts the London Handel Choir, London Handel Orchestra and many vocal soloists in Handel's *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*.

Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-588 8212, or 01-379 4444). 7.30pm, £2-10.

★ **PILGRIMS' COMFORT:** As another contribution to Pickett's Pageant the Hilliard Ensemble sings items from Dowland's best book of songs, *A Pilgrimes Solace*.

Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, or 01-428 8800). 8pm, £2-25.

★ **LOOSE TUBES:** The jazz segment of the Summer in the City season continues with a performance by the eclectic 21-piece orchestra.

Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-638 8881). 7.45pm, £5 to £5.

★ **SVEN KLANG'S COMBO:** Part of a season of jazz-inspired films, Stellan Olsson's other-worldly portrait of a small town band is one of the best films ever made about the jazz life. Coupled with "Jazz in Exile", featuring Dexter Gordon.

Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3647). 8.30pm £2.50, 7.50p pass. Unit 50.

★ **SLADE THE LEVELLER:** Acoustic set by New Model Army singer/guitarist. Supported by poet-comedian Jools and the Rev Hammer.

Acoustic Room, Mean Fiddler, 24-28 Tottenham Court Road, London NW10 (01-961 5490). 8pm, £4.

★ **LOOSE TUBES:** The jazz segment of the Summer in the City season continues with a performance by the eclectic 21-piece orchestra.

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Hotel's staff set to work abroad

By Robert Matthews
Technology Correspondent

Some of Britain's leading aerospace engineers are preparing to work abroad after the Government's decision to end support for the Hotel spaceplane.

The project is widely seen as a breakthrough in the development of truly low-cost space transport. It has been jeopardized by last week's decision by Mr Kenneth Clarke, then Minister of State for Industry, not to provide the £10 million needed over three years to complete development tests at British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce.

Dr Robert Parkinson, co-inventor of Hotel with Mr Alan Bond and now Hotel project leader at BAE in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, said yesterday that the announcement looks set to cause an exodus of talent out of the UK and into rival Aerospace companies in Europe.

"The brightest and best are packing their bags and are learning German and French," he said. Doubts about the long-term future of the project had already harmed Hotel, he said, with the departure last year of the deputy project leader to join the Euro-fighter programme in Europe. The brain-drain was likely to accelerate.

BAE seems certain to give up its leadership in the project and sell it to foreign competitors when its current budget for Hotel ends next year.

"There is a serious danger that British Aerospace will not stay the leader in the programme, as the leaders tend to be the ones that put in the most money," Dr Parkinson said.

The company is already talking to rivals in West Germany, France, Italy, and Spain about acquiring an interest in Hotel's revolutionary technology. An international consortium appears likely to take over the development and construction programme. Dr Parkinson said that the most recent analysis carried out by the design team had confirmed a fleet of four Hotels would pay for the entire development costs in five to seven years.

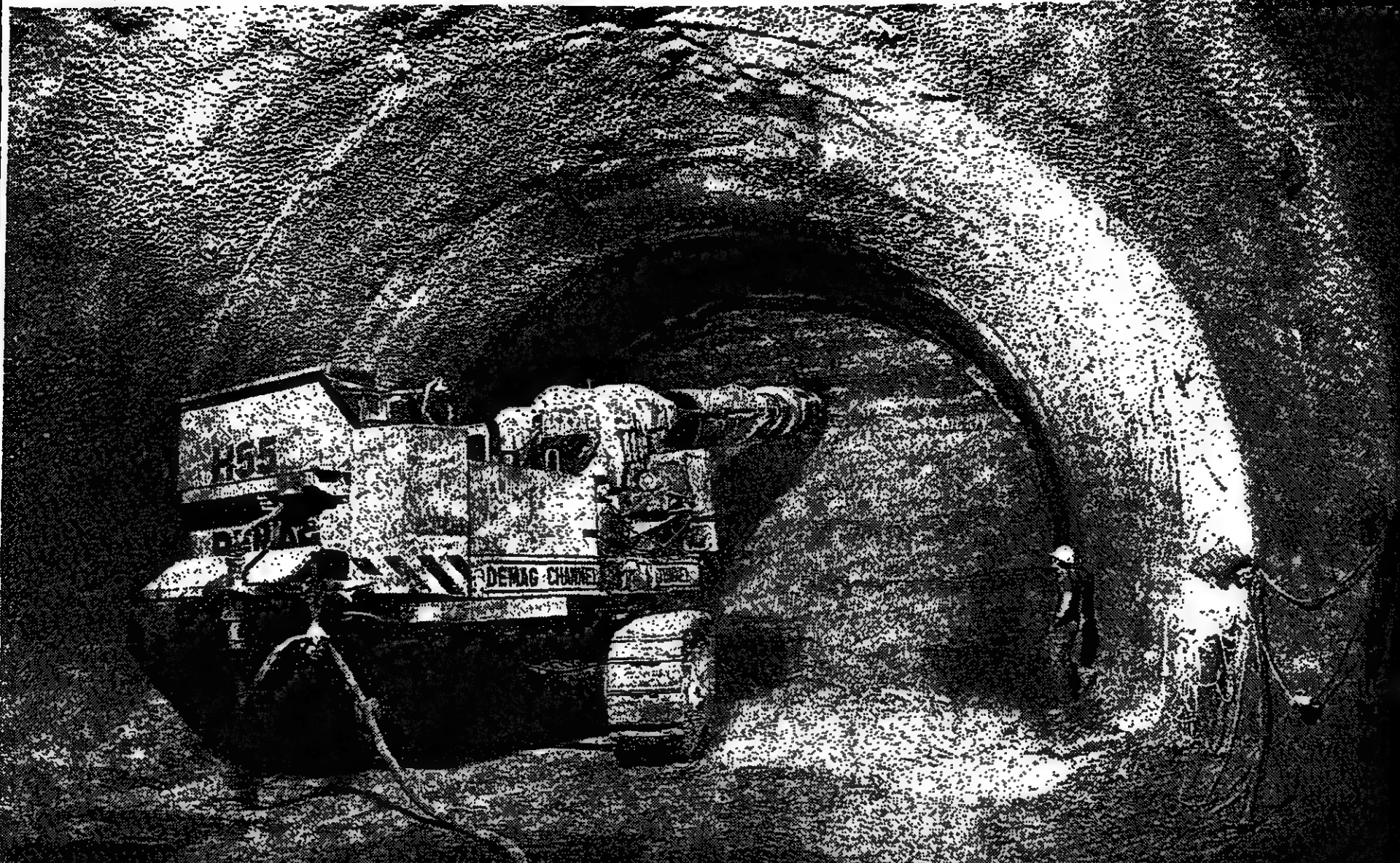
He gave his views at the annual conference in Cambridge of Mensa, the society for people with high IQs.

Sir Clive Sinclair, the high technology inventor and president of Mensa, said he would be trying to get the Government to reverse its "incredible decision" not to back Hotel. "We are going to fight damned hard to get them to change their minds on this one."

Sir Clive said that quite apart from the technological spin-offs, Hotel should be backed to maintain Britain's technological morale.

The Adam Smith Institute, the right-wing think-tank, said it too would be acting to support the growing campaign to keep Hotel's breakthroughs in Britain.

Channel tunnellers fall behind deadline



The first photograph of the inside of the main Channel tunnel where a road-header machine is drilling into clay so that the main boring machine can move in (Photograph: Byrne Craigie).

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

Eurotunnel, the company that will operate and own the Channel Tunnel, yesterday acknowledged that contractors boring the initial tunnel are far behind schedule and will fail to meet their deadline. Eurotunnel is expected to claim penalties for the delay.

To meet the deadline, Trans

Manche Link (TML) should bore the service tunnel — the smaller of three — 5 km out to sea from the site near Dover by November 1. But Eurotunnel has complained that the work was up to eight weeks late and had reached only one and a half kilometres.

Mr Joe Stacey, Eurotunnel's site manager, said there had been progress recently but the con-

tractors' latest estimate was that they would still be four to five weeks behind by November 1.

Part of the delay has been caused by water in the service tunnel, exposing what Mr Stacey calls "minor design defects" in the 600-ton tunnel-boring machine.

Eurotunnel refused to reveal the penalty they might be entitled to, and TML have said that they would

be likely to contest it.

Mr Stacey thought it would take until early in the new year to catch up. The fact that the service tunnel was running late did not mean the whole project would be delayed.

Mr Stacey said it might prove an advantage that the difficulties came to light so early. Subsequent boring machines could be modified while under construction.

He said that last week 119 metres of tunnel were bored. Although the target is 200 metres a week, they were starting to catch up. Apart from the work on the service tunnel, much other work has been done and Mr Stacey estimated that about a kilometre of subsidiary and connecting tunnels had been dug, as had a vertical shaft 110 metres deep by tea

'Overcrowding' dispute spreads

Jail unrest at Parkhurst

By Peter Evans and Andrew Morgan

Officers at Parkhurst top security prison on the Isle of Wight took industrial action yesterday, adding to unrest which has stopped the admission of prisoners to key London jails.

As the dispute at Holloway women's prison spread, Mr Douglas Hogg, Home Office minister responsible for prisons, appealed for the action to be called off. "For prisoners to have to be kept in police cells must be wrong by any kind of standard," he said.

The prison officers "must consider whether they are being asked to act in a professional way."

As he spoke, officers at London prisons were taking industrial action to reduce the jail populations to what they are officially supposed to hold, the so-called "certified normal accommodation" (CNA).

One reason for the Parkhurst dispute is the Prison Department's new sys-

tem of working called "Fresh Start" — which also sparked off the London action.

Even before the present dispute, the police have been under tremendous pressure, coping with movements of prisoners into police and court cells.

One of the key prisons is Brixton, which over the last six months has taken an average of 80 new

unconvicted remand and trial prisoners each day.

In the present action, Brixton officers will accept sentenced prisoners from the crown court and people remanded in custody for a medical examination but they are not taking any normal remands.

Wandsworth Prison was not accepting any remands. About 30 new prisoners would be locked out each day, the

Prison Officers Association said. Most of the new receptions come from Brixton, so there is a knock-on effect.

At Pentonville, Mr Dave Taylor, branch chairman, said: "There will be no receptions today. We take normally about 45. We shall keep this up as long as necessary."

Feltham Youth Custody Centre is not overcrowded, according to Mr Duncan Keys, deputy chairman of the POA branch. "We are waiting for the national executive to contact us to see what action we should take. We predict that we shall be imposing a minimum staffing level, which will effectively close down the prison."

The population at Wormwood Scrubs, about 1,500 prisoners, is already down to 1,023 as a result of industrial action since February over staffing levels. As a result the prison is holding only what it should.

Talks were planned for late yesterday afternoon at Holloway between the prison management and POA branch officials after it was agreed that two female principal officers whom the union objected to would not sit at the talks.

However, the talks were postponed until 10.30am this morning at the prison.

Thatcher attacked on sanctions stance

Continued from page 1

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, steered away from the subject during their talks yesterday.

But it emerged that Mrs Thatcher is considering a visit next year to the front-line states, although she will not consider going to South Africa without the release of Nelson Mandela.

Mrs Thatcher also promised Australia a new partnership with Britain. She has invited Mr Hawke to London next year, and asked him to bring a group of other senior ministers to meet their counterparts and cement the relationship.

In two speeches and a press conference yesterday in Canberra, the federal capital, and another in Melbourne, she underlined her belief in Britain's great bond of friendship with Australia.

"We want to step up our contacts at every level," she

said. "Let's do it as two strong, proud, independent, successful nations, each with its own contribution to make."

She promised the Australians that she would not allow the launch of the Single European Market in 1992 to erect greater trading barriers against other countries.

"Britain can provide a springboard for Australia into that market, and we hope that our trade and investment with you will help us to do better in the great markets of the Pacific," she said.

The Prime Minister, the first guest in Australia's new parliament building, met Mr Hawke for 45 minutes and suggested that the British Government might consider renegotiating the payment of pensions to 117,000 British subjects in Australia.

Under present policy, the British Government does not adjust those pensions for inflation. Instead, the Australian

Moscow frees German pilot

Continued from page 1

friends, and spend some time thinking about his future. Tass accused Herr Rust of an "unprecedented act of hooliganism in the air," as he approached Moscow last May near the air corridor used by international flights approaching Sheremetyevo.

The dramatic flight from Helsinki, Finland, across Soviet Estonia and on to Moscow through the world's most closely guarded air space, shook Soviet security and prompted the dismissal of the Defence Minister, General Sergei Sokolov, and the Air Defence chief, General Alexander Koldunov.

Soviet jets scrambled to intercept Herr Rust's Cosmos when it was detected crossing into Soviet airspace, but an action was taken to halt the flight and apparently no word of warning about the incident was sent forward to Moscow.

The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev and General Sokolov were in East Berlin at the time of Herr Rust's flight, for a meeting of the Warsaw Pact. Two days after Herr Rust's landing and arrest, General Sokolov was sent into retirement for the lapse and General Koldunov was dismissed. Rust said at his trial that he made the flight to promote world peace. But the Soviet Supreme Court said Rust was interested more in promoting himself.

He was found guilty on September 4, 1987, of illegally entering the Soviet Union, violating international flight rules, and malicious hooliganism, and sentenced to four years in a Soviet labour camp. However, he remained in Lefortovo Prison.

"Having served just over a quarter of the term to which he was sentenced by the court, Matthias Rust was released. The Soviet Union has shown its humanity again," Tass said.

In West Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl, welcoming Herr Rust's release, said it was a "positive gesture" ahead of his visit to Moscow in October.

The West German government had worked for Herr Rust's release and a government spokesman, Herr Norbert Schäfer said in Bonn that "the federal government" is pleased with this step.

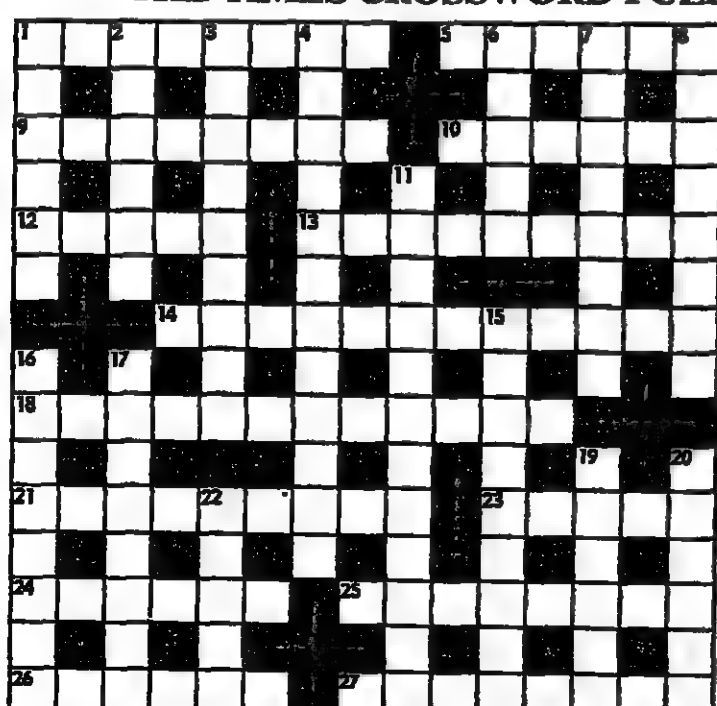
Herr Rust's mother, Frau Monika Rust, told reporters outside the family home in Wedel, near Hamburg: "This is the most beautiful moment of my life. I am so happy."

Frau Rust said she and her husband, Karl-Heinz, had learned of their son's release from a radio news bulletin.

Asked when she would be reunited with her son, she replied: "I don't know." She then left in a car escorted by representatives of Stern magazine which last year bought exclusive rights to the Rust story.

Stern's representatives were keeping the parents away from a crowd of press, radio and television reporters outside the family home.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,739



ACROSS

- A chapter of *The Prisoner of Zenda*? Not likely! (4,4).
- Profession has run rapidly out of control (6).
- Separate here, careful to avoid embarrassment by hearsay (8).
- A sacred word in entrance to Marabar Caves (6).
- "And always keep a hold of —" (Belloc) (5).
- I am betwixt two capes — what excitement! (9).
- Swaggering characters rousing Viola (12).
- Helping those in despair is a Marianne resolution (12).
- Dubious gains invested in gold sovereign by fixer (9).
- County participating in big time athletics (5).
- The sort of relations created by unions (2,4).
- Wild flower, good for cleaner hair (8).
- Mother's lad maybe sings like such an angel (6).
- A climber beginning to belay, for example (8).

DOWN

- Taking part of a short track (6).
- A total failure, this bid (6).
- Fabric that is harsh or rough (9).
- With spin in this game (5,3-4).
- Where adders slide to and fro? (5).
- Seaport offering limited right of admission to vessel (8).
- Have another think about sea-breaking over the ship (8).
- Foot trouble makes defeated bowmen run away near the end (8,6).
- Raise more contributions for a musical (4,5).
- Surprise sort of university place? (8).
- He takes no notice of a country's customs when he travels (8).
- Had accepted short part in "1066 and All That" (6).
- Necklace in stock (6).
- Post for a rail supporter (5).

Courtesy crossword, page 16

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- CYNICETIS**
a. Hunting
b. Birth control of dogs
c. A school of philosophy
- LIBANOPHOUS**
a. Levantine swordsmanship
b. Seminal
c. Growth in Libya
- DELPHINET**
a. Greek national dress
b. A young dolphin
c. To travel on the surface
- CAKE COURSE**
a. An easy option
b. Layer in a sponge cake
c. A permeable brick foundation

Answers on page 16, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,738

ACROSS
1. ZENITH
2. FAILURE
3. HARSH
4. MARABAR
5. BELLOC
6. CAPES
7. VIOLA
8. MARIANNE
9. SOVEREIGN
10. ATHLETICS
11. UNIONS
12. WILDFLOWER
13. ANGEL
14. BELAY

DOWN
1. TRACK
2. BID
3. ROUGH
4. GAME
5. ADDERS
6. VESSEL
7. SHIP
8. FOOT
9. MUSICAL
10. SEMINAL
11. DOLPHIN
12. SURFACE
13. LAYER
14. FOUNDATION

WEATHER

Western districts will be cloudy with rain spreading eastwards over Northern Ireland and western Scotland — possibly heavy in places. Elsewhere it will be mainly dry. Outlook: brighter in Scotland and Northern Ireland; cloudy in northern England; staying dry in the South.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1
Algeria	39/102	S	10/6	1

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1
London	18/24	S	10/6	1

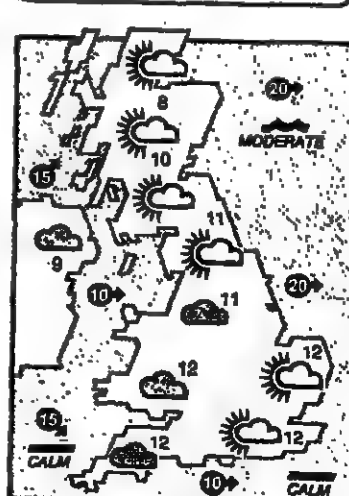
HIGH TIDES

Area	Time	Height
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
London	11:15	11.2
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London	11:15	11.2

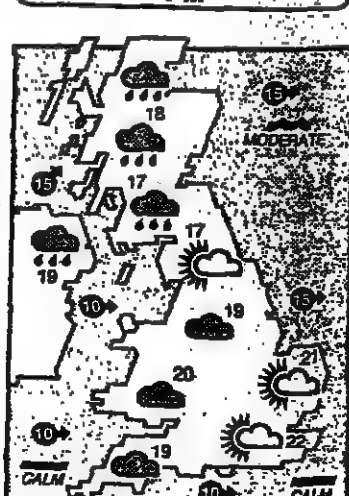
THE POUND

Area	Rate	Notes
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1
London	1.50	1

AM



PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 21C (70F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 10.5 mm; 24hr to 6 pm, 10.5 mm.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 17C (63F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 10.5 mm; 24hr to 6 pm, 10.5 mm.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: highest day temp: Jersey 21C (70F); lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, 10C (50F). Highest night temp: 10C (50F); lowest night temp: 10C (50F).

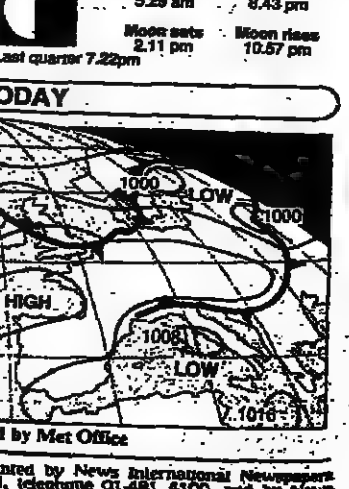
YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud, f, h, i, rain, s, sun.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 9.13 pm to 5.01 am
Bristol 9.23 pm to 5.10 am
Edinburgh 9.44 pm to 4.55 am
Manchester 9.28 pm to 5.01 am
Penzance 9.30 pm to 5.27 am

NOON TODAY



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هكمان الشمل

Equity Exempt	120.9	129.7	+1.0
	222.4	248.0	+1.6

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

of or Designers	83	88	2.9	24	104
Comp Financial	185	200	6.4	23	141
Composn	47	52
Convey Pst	59	67	84

DON FINANCIAL FUTUR

Estimated dead carcass weight	Estimated dead carcass weight
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هكذا من الأهل

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

August 4, 1988

Helen Connor analyses the job prospects and salaries for this year's batch of university leavers

All the signs point to 1988 being another good year for graduates looking for jobs and a difficult one for many employers. Employment opportunities for new graduates are extremely good. The upward trend in graduate demand has continued and vacancies are at an all-time high.

As in 1987, there are unlikely to be enough graduates available to fully satisfy demand and many employers are concerned about meeting their targets.

The 1988 graduate recruitment market has been lively and will continue to be so well into the autumn.

Traditionally, graduate recruitment activity has reached a peak during the spring-term milkround but more students are now waiting until after their final exams to start their job hunt.

This pattern has been seen quite clearly in 1988. There has been less interest from students in the milkround and employers have had to put more emphasis on summer recruitment activities.

Though the total output of graduates with first degrees in 1988 is not much higher than last year, there are more new graduates on the employment market at this time of year than in the past.

Each year since 1982 the number of new graduates being sought

by employers has increased and 1988 is not going to buck this trend. Overall, graduate vacancies are likely to be 8 per cent higher than in 1987.

Most university and polytechnic careers offices have experienced an increase in the number of vacancies notified to them by employers, and advertised vacancies are up by 20 per cent.

The boom in demand for graduates is not evenly spread across employment sectors, and not all recruiters have more vacancies in 1988 than in 1987.

There has been a marked improvement this year in the number of vacancies in industry, especially in the information technology sector, where sudden cut-backs were experienced in 1987 by some companies due to adverse business conditions.

The services sector continues to be active, taking one in three of all graduates entering employment. The fall-out from last October's stock markets crash appears to have had little effect on demand overall.

This is probably because City institutions recruited relatively small numbers of new graduates in 1987 and any downturn there is likely to have been compensated for by the growth in the graduate intakes in the rest of the financial sector, such as general banking,

A tough time ahead for graduate hunters

insurance, building societies and accountancy.

One sector that continues to be gloomy, however, is education, where there is no major swing back to teaching as a career choice for graduates, especially in key shortage subjects such as maths, physics, craft development technology and languages.

The graduate recruitment market now comprises almost 2,000 companies right across the employment spectrum. While a small number of large employers continue to dominate the scene — fewer than 50 companies are likely to recruit more than 10,000 graduates between them in 1988 — there is a growth in interest in graduates from small employers.

Graduates have been boosted by new government-backed schemes such as the Shell Technology

Enterprise Programme (STEP) to help place more graduates in small companies. In 1988, 150 graduates will be placed by STEP, up by 40 since last year.

The increasing diversity and competitiveness of the graduate market is illustrated by the widening range of salaries offered to new graduates and the increasing use of fringe benefits.

According to the recent salary survey of members of the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR)*, the average starting salary in 1988 is likely to be around £9,200 (excluding London allowances or other benefits), an increase of 8 per cent since 1987, well above the inflation rate.

At the top end of the range are a small number of companies offering salaries of more than £12,000 to individuals, but at the other end some salaries are below £8,000. The salary range has widened in

1988: the salaries offered by the top 10 per cent of employers are now nearly 40 per cent higher than the bottom 10 per cent.

Concerns about meeting graduate targets this year stem not just from a recognition of increased competition in the market place but also from changes in the timing of student applications. Many companies experienced fewer initial applications from final-year students for milkround interviews this year. In some companies, including some well-established graduate recruiters who are used to receiving 1,000 applications or more on the milkround, applications were down by 20 to 30 per cent.

Part of the reason for the reduction is that students are becoming better informed about careers and more discerning about their application. Many of the employers who experienced a



that participation at fairs this year was around the same as last year. It seems that some graduates in 1988 may be taking an even more "laid back" view of the brighter employment outlook, preferring not to rush into applying for jobs or going to recruitment fairs immediately after graduation.

In many respects, 1988 has turned out to be a continuation of trends seen in the past few years — more competition, shortages of graduates, especially in technical disciplines, and greater effort and resources being put in by employers to recruit the sort of graduates they need.

Probably the most dramatic change has been the spread in timing of applications for jobs to later in the year, though the milkround continues to hold its own as a key focus of activity.

The main challenge for many employers in 1988 has been how to tailor their graduate recruitment to fit with these trends and compete effectively in the increasingly expensive graduate recruitment market.

The author is Research Fellow of the Institute of Manpower Studies

* The AGR Graduate Salary and Vacancy Survey is produced for the Association of Graduate Recruiters by the Institute of Manpower Studies, and is available free to AGR members

drop in applications reported no decline in the quality of applicants, and selected proportionally more for interview.

But the main reason for the fall-off in spring-term applications is that many more students this year decided to delay their job search until after final exams were out of the way.

This trend has been seen in the past few years in the increasing popularity of summer recruitment fairs and mini-milkrounds during June and July, and a peak in summertime advertising of vacancies.

Atendance last year at summer fairs was up by 50 per cent, although they still accounted for only a tiny proportion of the total recruitment of graduates in 1987 (less than 10 per cent) compared with the milkround. Preliminary reports indicate

APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481 — APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481

WE STILL NEED A MANAGER

(Readvertisement)

SALARY NEGOTIABLE c. £32,000 plus car

Our new leisure department has an annual turnover of £8.9 million and this year's capital programme is in excess of £4 million. The range of leisure facilities within the City is extensive and the provision and maintenance of high quality cultural, sporting and recreational facilities is a high priority. Swansea is an exciting place and we are determined to meet the current challenges facing local government in a positive way.

We are looking for a Director of Leisure Services who will help us to get things done and the emphasis is very firmly on management ability. The successful candidate for this chief officer's post will be able to call on a large team of professional specialists in all leisure fields. The initial task will be to weld senior staff into a successful team to ensure that the first class services provided within the City are developed and enhanced.

Specific professional qualifications and experience are secondary to managerial ability: we are seeking someone who can motivate a large workforce, fostering a positive attitude

amongst employees enabling them to develop skills to meet today's demands and fulfil their potential.

This is a demanding job but it is based in a City where we offer all the benefits of City life with the ability to afford a good standard of living for you and your family. We are looking to negotiate a fixed term contract at an attractive salary (plus car) with a good relocation package.

Andrew Boatwain (Chief Executive) or Ray Milton (Acting Director of Administration) on 0792 50821 (extensions 2101 or 2201) can tell you more or you can ring and ask either of them for our information package.

Applications and a cv should be sent to:

The Acting Director of Administration,
The Guildhall, Swansea SA1 4PE
by 18th August.



City of Swansea

An equal opportunity employer

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STREAMLINING THE CONTROL OF MEDICINESDirector
up to £45,000

The Medicines Division of the Department of Health is responsible for carrying out statutory duties to regulate medicines, such as licensing and studying adverse reactions.

The recent report on the control of medicines by Mr P W Cunliffe and Dr N J B Evans suggested radical changes in the way in which this work and the Division should be organised.

The Department is therefore looking for a Director to carry forward the work and the reorganisation of the Division as the new Medicines Control Agency. As head of the Agency, he or she will lead a group of doctors, pharmacists, scientists and administrators in spearheading changes to increase efficiency and effectiveness in the control of medicines. The Director will also represent the Agency in its dealings with the public, especially with the pharmaceutical industry.

The post calls for a high level of management skills and the vision to implement far-reaching changes. The Director must be able to lead and motivate a large multi-disciplinary team and to command the confidence of Ministers and outside bodies. He or she will be responsible for an annual budget of some £10 million. Experience at a high level is therefore essential; a medical

or other professional qualification would be a distinct advantage.

The appointment will be for three years, with the option to renew for a further two years, at the equivalent of Civil Service Grade 3 level. The post will attract a basic salary of up to £45,000 (from October), with the possibility of a higher amount for a particularly well-qualified candidate. There will also be a performance-related addition to salary and membership of a mainly non-contributory pension scheme. The Director will be accountable to the Deputy Secretary responsible for overall policy on medicines and Deputy Chief Medical Officer concerned with the control of medicines.

Further particulars of the post and an application form may be obtained from the Principal Establishments Officer, Department of Health, Room A304, (telephone: 01-407 5522 ext: 8509), Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 8BY. Applications should reach him by 18th September 1988. Additional information about the post may be obtained from Mr Bryan Rayner CB, Room 512, Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS (Tel: 01-210 5550).

The Department of Health is an equal opportunity employer.

MANAGEMENT
SURVEYOR

Required for our expanding residential property management department.

Experience in all matters relating to day to day management particularly liaison with tenants, landlords and their associations essential.

Attractive salary package, dependant on age and experience.

Applications in writing enclosing CV and present salary to:

Fiona Dunlop
Personnel Manager
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London W8 4LE

BUSINESS
MANAGER

A small private company in Thames Valley, long established in Managing an Industrial Property Portfolio and with interests in the leasing of liquid transportation equipment on a large scale.

Seek an astute Administrator with integrity and flair in business judgement and creative thought toward the future growth of these operations.

Salary is negotiable, car, profit share.

Full details please to:
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Ref: A.A./R.P.
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wish to employ several career orientated salespeople for our Private Client Department. Age Preference under 25.

We welcome those with experience, however extensive training will be provided.

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Annabel Grayburn,
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01-283 8984
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The Building Societies Commission is responsible for the supervision of building societies to protect investors. It also administers the legislative framework which governs societies' constitution and business.

As one of three Assistant Commissioners, you and your team will supervise a group of societies of varying size and complexity. You will consider the implications of their policies and trends and review the adequacy of business control systems, involving regular liaison with boards, senior executives and auditors. You will also, for the industry as a whole, initiate or respond to the development of prudential and other policy issues such as capital adequacy, relations with other supervisory authorities, and the impact of EC developments and economic and social trends.

You must be able to demonstrate significant understanding — through training and experience — of one or more of the following: accountancy, economics, statistics, financial institutions and markets, or financial regulations. You will be required to represent the Commission at all levels and have the personality and presence to persuade directors and management to change course as necessary in the interests of investors.

A salary up to £34,500 is envisaged with further increases depending on performance. A higher starting salary may be available to an exceptional candidate.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 30 August 1988) write to the Building Societies Commission, 15 Great Marlborough Street, London W1V 2AX or telephone 01-457 9992. Please quote ref: G/7676.

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News International Newspapers Limited
THE TIMES • NEWS OF THE WORLD • THE SUN • THE SUNDAY TIMESManager, Atex Services Department
c. £35,000 + car East London

News International Newspapers Limited who publish The Sun, News of the World, The Times and Sunday Times are seeking a Manager for their Atex Services Department based at Wapping in East London.

The Job:

This is a senior appointment within the Company and the successful applicant will be responsible for:

- managing and controlling the technical and administrative functions of the Atex Services Department;
- formulating an E.D.P. strategy;
- setting down plans for the strategic demands of computer applications and the associated technical services and the support systems activity across all copy processing.

The Person:

Suitable candidates will be able to demonstrate considerable experience in computerised newspaper production, preferably using an Atex system. A thorough

knowledge of the way in which editorial and advertising departments run is essential.

Age is not the most important consideration but it is unlikely that a person less than 35 years of age will have had the appropriate experience that the Company is seeking.

The Rewards:

Starting salary will be negotiable but not less than £35,000 per annum and a Company car will be provided. There are six weeks' annual holiday plus the usual Bank holidays and the Company operates a free family BUPA membership scheme. Pension and sickness schemes are what you would expect from a large international organisation.

Letters of applications accompanied by a comprehensive cv. should be sent to:

Tudor Hopkins, Director of Human Resources,
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Working for this prestigious manufacturer, you will assist the area sales manager in the training of sales personnel, attending exhibitions and demonstrations at the company's offices based in Slough and at dealers premises. A superb opportunity for young person with typewriter training experience. Please send CV or telephone Jacky Beeson of Park Recruitment, 83, North Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 1ZA telephone (0273) 821664

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01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Are you a People Person

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Specialist resources and skilled personnel, trained to lead this multi-national organisation have been a main contributory factor to this success.

Now to promote the further expansion and development of these key human resources a new **Recruitment Officer** is needed. Particularly suited to an energetic, well qualified, experienced person with an enquiring mind, who can demonstrate a flair for the use of interpersonal skills.

Benefits include a salary starting at £12,000 (dependent upon experience and ability) which will suit someone in their mid to late twenties who is looking for career advancement.

This could be the right move for you. But only if you are our ideal people person.



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The job as we see it demands the following qualities:

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3. Ability to make the most of every opportunity in a professional way.
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Keith Maddocks, Managing Director
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Renison Goldfields Consolidated Limited (RGC) is a major and diversified Australian mining company. The Company operates large underground mines (the Renison Tin mine and the Mount Lyell Copper mine in Tasmania), open-cut gold mines in the Northern Territory and Papua New Guinea and alluvial tin mine in Indonesia. RGC is one of the world's largest producers of rutile, zircon, synthetic rutile and monazite from open-cut and dredge mines and associated processing plants in Western Australia and the USA. RGC also has a marketing and trading division and maintains a resources investment portfolio. The Company has an active exploration programme in Australia, Papua New Guinea, USA, the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia. New projects currently in hand include a gold mine in New South Wales and a joint venture interest in the major Porgera gold deposit in Papua New Guinea.

Due to planned and future growth, several opportunities exist for:

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Applications are invited from professionally qualified mining engineers with at least 10 years operating experience in underground or open pit mines. Experience should include mine planning, underground work and supervision of a work force such that a Mine Manager's certificate can be obtained which is appropriate to the jurisdiction of the relevant State of Australia in which the employee is appointed. Appointments may be to field locations or to the Group's Sydney office in the first instance, and employees could expect some relocation during a career with this progressive and dynamic organisation.

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N.A. Mills
General Manager
Employee Relations
Gold Fields House, 1 Alfred St
Sydney NSW Australia 2000

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SECRETARY

ORPINGTON KENT Ca.£20,000 + Car

The impending retirement of the partnership secretary to a substantial firm of International architects necessitates the recruitment of a Chartered Secretary or similarly qualified person as his replacement.

The partnership secretary will have a creative role, assisting the partners in all the management aspects of developing and expanding the practice through 1992 and into the 21st Century.

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He or she will be responsible for all aspects of the partnership's administration from payrolls and the supervision of office routines to legal matters and the execution of all administrative decisions arising from Partners' meetings which he or she will attend.

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Please send comprehensive career resume and personal details to:

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If you are: Aged between 25-35

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Have the qualities to manage a small team

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Can maintain and expand our client base

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We would like to meet you.

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For further details please write enclosing cv to Kate Mole or Jane Crosthwaite at the address below.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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Level 1 Service Trainer c.£15K, plus car, stock options

Who will be responsible for implementing all courses which are necessary
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You should have a demonstrated interest in tourism and leisure
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Salary £11,904 rising to £14,755, currently under review. Leave
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Further information from Verity Walker on 01 407 6434 X 126.
Application forms from Jo Cope on 01 735 8922 X 233.

Closing date for completed forms 16 August. Interviews in London
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- G Growth - in just a few years to a potential fee income
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- H Heavyweight sales people aged 28-35 are needed to
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- J Job - you'll deal with both vendors and purchasers
across a wide spectrum of marketable homes.
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- L Leisure - you'll work hard - but you'll have plenty of
free time to enjoy the fruits of your success.
- M Medocracy - we have no time for it. Energy,
intelligence, flair and ambition we do have time for.
- N Negotiators - ours come from various business
backgrounds. Proven success is what we look for.
- O Offices - we've expanded upwards, sideways and
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- P Prospects - outstanding. There's no earnings ceiling -
and as we grow, so will you.
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under reference AGCS4621/TT, to the Managing Director: CJA.

A challenging appointment - scope to move to a more senior role in finance or to become a General Manager in 3-5 years.



INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DIRECTOR - BRAZIL

£30,000-£40,000

RIO DE JANEIRO

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successful candidate will take responsibility through a team of 35 for the total Financial Control - involving the budgeting,
forecasting, production of monthly management accounting information, update of systems, which are highly
complicated, long range forecasting etc. The ability to make a significant contribution to the company's progress through
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EUROPEAN MARKET PLANNING MANAGER - INDUSTRIAL PIGMENTS

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This appointment calls for seasoned industrial marketing practitioners, aged 28-35 with demonstrable strengths in
strategic market evaluation, product planning and design and the management of market research. Graduates in
Economics or a like numerate discipline will be preferred and computer literacy is essential. We require not less than five
years comprehensive industrial marketing experience, to include major product management, with a leading organisation
noted for its methods and success. A knowledge of the P and W paper industry and markets would be an advantage and
European languages are desirable. Heading a small and professional team and reporting to the Marketing Manager -
Paper, the successful candidate will be responsible for market and demand forecasting, competitive analysis, the co-
ordination and development of marketing strategy and objectives together with the divisional planning and budgetary
process and performance monitoring. Key to the success of this appointment are communication and presentation skills,
an ordered but imaginative approach and the ability, under pressure and minimal direction, to make a sustained
contribution to the overall marketing effort. The salary will be commensurate with the level of responsibility plus profit
share, car, contributory pension, life assurance, medical insurance plan and assistance with relocation expenses.
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A key appointment with scope to build a substantial team in 12-36 months.



SUPERVISOR - STATISTICAL SURVEYS - FINANCIAL SERVICES

£15,000-£22,000

HERTFORDSHIRE

LEADING MULTINATIONAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

This new appointment calls for candidates, aged 28-35, who have acquired at least 3 years practical and interpretative
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insurance industry or accountancy will be an advantage. Reporting will be to the Head of Research and responsibilities will
cover supervising and motivating a market research team of initially up to five, covering a number of simultaneous
research projects in key function areas relating to the insurance/financial services industry. The ability to set budgets,
recruit and train further analysts and ensure a high degree of accuracy as well as developing a high level of sensitivity to
the insurance market's requirements is vital. Initial salary negotiable, £15,000-£22,000, contributory pension, free life
insurance, free B.U.P.A. Applications in strict confidence under reference SSSI4620/TT, to the Managing Director: CJA.
N.B. Further vacancies exist for two assistant analysts with a minimum of 'A' level Mathematics or a University Degree in
either Economics, Statistics, Mathematics or Natural Sciences, aged 23-28, salary negotiable £12,000-£17,000.
Applications in strict confidence under reference AA340/TT, to the Managing Director: A.C.P.

3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PJ, TELEPHONE 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576, TELEX: 887374, FAX: 01-256 8501.

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Joining the Energy Policy Department, you will enjoy the
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Familiar with energy markets and major energy policy issues,
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able to communicate clearly and persuasively with senior people
both in and outside the company. Ref: ECP/07645/130/T.

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In the General Economics Department, you will be
particularly concerned with preparing short and long-term
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contributing significantly on a wide range of micro-economic issues.

You must possess a solid background in economic principles,
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concise, clear reports to tight deadlines, while an aptitude for
econometrics and computer software is desirable.
Ref: ECP/01207/142/T.

Salaries are supported by an attractive range of large-
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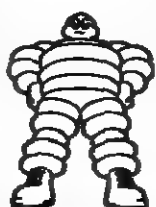
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HORIZONS

مكتبة من الكتب

Heads of big companies are being trained to see their problems in a new light, writes Ann Hills

A lateral view at the top

Senior managers, says Geoff Hancock, managing director of Express Foods Group, are quick to say that their subordinates need training, but for themselves it is a different story. That attitude, he believes, is wrong.

Top executives are still responsible to bosses (in his case within the parent group, Grand Metropolitan), to shareholders and to colleagues within the company. The men heading multi-million pound corporations — women are noticeably absent — are also under more pressure than ever with 1992 approaching, reinforcing the fact that trade is essentially global and competitive.

Training is now developing to enable company chiefs to supervise broad shifts in direction, and adapt to new concepts and strategies way beyond such specifics as cutting costs, or meeting targets to increase sales. So who can the top tier turn to for personal training which can enable them to forge ahead with imagination and fresh approaches?

The first answer is the Italian Ambrosini Group, which was formed in the 1960s to run management education programmes for multinational clients. It spread to the US and Japan, and earlier this year opened an office in the West End of London.

The second answer is Dr

Edward de Bono, who first published his "lateral-thinking" theories in the 1960s, and who now runs occasional courses in Britain among his myriad of international efforts to "re-arrange" thinking at all levels from schoolchildren to presidents of companies and countries.

Mr Hancock turned to Ambrosini. He trained as a microbiologist and food technologist, joining Express Foods three years ago, after a steady career with household names such as Unilever, Unigate and Cadbury Schweppes.

He told me: "In the mid-1970s I attended a course at INSEAD, the French international management school near Paris. It opened my mind to the world dimension — I particularly remember discussing cross-cultural issues with a guy from Poland."



Geoff Hancock: Mind opened to the world dimension

Here, amid debates on strategic planning, he met Jerome Foster, then INSEAD's manager of executive education. Today Mr Foster heads Ambrosini's new venture in London, working nearer his wife Joanna, who is chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission. Ironically, though, his clients have so far been entirely male.

A mailshot from Mr Foster persuaded Mr Hancock to join Ambrosini's Alpha-Plus programme this spring.

Alpha-Plus is virtually a top executive's club, which could be likened to a health club for brain power. Executives sign on as members, and are expected to attend a series of about a dozen one-day workshops a year.

Mr Hancock was impressed by the list of previous speakers —



Edward de Bono: Rearranging thinking at all levels

from Lord Jenkins to Jimmy Carter — and he found the concept of taking only one day a month, and a few preparatory hours, appealing. "It is very difficult for the boss to take a whole week for self-improvement," he said. Marking down one day a month is a realistic commitment. In that time I can stand back from business."

Because there is no scope for substituting another colleague, an esprit de corps develops between members, who may come from manufacturing industries, financial services, and occasionally from academic backgrounds.

"The common issues are coping with accelerating rates of change," says Mr Hancock. He considers that those in senior management "are paid to be good judges, to motivate, and to acknowledge that they manage through others."

In Grand Met he is "something of a pioneer, being self-motivated in seeking training". The Alpha-Plus training will enable him "to stand outside a problem and see it in perspective, rather than be drawn in and see it from one angle. Of course it's easy to say 'that's obvious', but often the little gems are blindingly obvious."

The concepts learnt, he adds, can have long gestation periods — years later they may become a catalyst for new ideas, "a little trigger in the storeroom of my mind".

He doesn't expect staff will notice his "low profile improvement. I don't want to return with missionary zeal: my management style works, but I would hope that my staff will respect me for acknowledging the benefit of training."

Ambrosini starts its autumn-to-spring session on September 9, tackling "managing business globally: competition, collaboration and control," under the direction of Jose de la Torre, Professor of International Business Strategy at the University of California.

Coincidentally, Edward de Bono's next London-based course on Lateral Thinking for Management overlaps. The dates are September 8 to 9. He works at different levels examining and teaching the "nature of thinking". On the business front, he blames companies for failing "to spend money on concept research and development, on lateral and creative thinking."

Who can benefit according to the de Bono recipe for "fundamental shifts in thinking"? Dr de Bono paints a picture of a less dynamic person "who rises to the top through playing a sound and steady game, a competent done job. He knows wheels need to be oiled and the tank filled with fuel. A third type, who has worked his way up in the organization and sees the value of ideas,



beyond mere 'maintenance management', might call me in: I'm always talking to the wrong people — those who are motivated."

But even they might start at the wrong end. "People tend to believe that an analysis of the data will give them all the ideas they need," he said. "That's totally wrong. So is the belief that argument is the best way of producing progress. A better way is exploration and rethinking."

But nothing is simple. "By definition every creative idea must be logical in hindsight. That has led us for 2,400 years to say that if it is logical in hindsight, we should develop better logic — which is totally untrue. Logic only services accepted perceptions."

Recently, Dr de Bono — by now the author of 28 books in 22 languages — completed a seven-part video series in Switzerland called Lateral Thinking in Management as a basic resource to build around, and at a cost to reflect its potential value —

At this level, training costs are measured in transatlantic flights, in fees for world-class speakers and time away from work for executives paid in six figure sums. But the stakes are high: the organizer of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games claimed that Dr de Bono's lateral thinking turned them into a profitable concern. Also in the US, Du Pont wondered how to increase carpet sales. The dramatic answer came with a new product — Stainmaster carpets with fibres impregnated to sponge stains off.

Dr de Bono puts such developments in the category of rethinking in terms of the consumers' lifestyle. Ford, over-producing cars in Europe, might, for example, sell an improved "motoring" concept by extending beyond being an engineering company — a matter he has discussed with them.

Material is available, as are courses. Addresses: Ambrosini Europe, 8 Clifford Street, London W1X 1RB (01-434 9091); Edward de Bono, L2 Albany, Piccadilly, London W1V 9RR (01-603 2841)

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*Placing Accountants First***TREASURY AUDITOR****EC2 £38,000 + BANKING BENS**

Full banking benefits and outstanding career prospects are offered by this major financial institution to a highly motivated ACA with extensive treasury audit experience and an interest in the international money market. A varied role dealing with capital market production, financial futures and options and interest rate risks. An outstanding opportunity for those seeking a challenging and highly responsible role. Ref: JN/TRS.

70 Watling Street, EC4 Tel: 01-236 0657

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An exciting career opportunity has arisen within the head office team of a major international Finance Group. You will be allowed to develop your financial accounting and computer skills into a broader based business analyst role with an active involvement in business planning, forecasting and acquisition studies. A study package is offered, although the main requirement is initiative and determination. Ref: J8244

63/65 Moorgate, EC2 Tel: 01-638 3955

Financial Accountants and Internal Auditors

A highly successful multi-national high-tech group committed to exceptionally high standards of professional and management discipline, have vacancies for Financial Accountants, Investigating Accountants and Internal Auditors for South African offices.

Candidates will be Chartered Accountants or Cost and Management Accountants with an established record of achievement and at least three years experience in industrial or financial management.

These are permanent appointments, but three year contracts will be considered. Final selection interviews will take place in the United Kingdom during August.

Successful candidates will receive relocation assistance. The group operates throughout the Republic of South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. It has more than 14,000 employees involved in over 100 operating units. Please send, in confidence, a brief career summary to Roger Hindle, c/o Benton & Bowles Recruitment Ltd, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RP.

**The Altron Group****Hilton Darchem Holdings****Commercial Director Greenwich**

Darchem Group companies have an established reputation in the design, manufacture and construction of high quality engineered components and systems for capital projects. The acquisition by Darchem of R.B. Hilton Limited in 1987 has extended Group capabilities into refractory construction services for the petrochemical, steel, oil and power generation industries.

An experienced Commercial Director is required to take responsibility for the financial management of this company which has a turnover of £12m per annum, supplying fire protection materials and systems to a range of construction projects in the UK, Middle East and Australia.

Reporting to the Managing Director, with functional responsibility to the Darchem Group Financial Controller, the successful applicant will be a qualified accountant with financial and commercial experience in civil engineering and building construction projects.

The remuneration package, including company car and removal assistance, where appropriate, will appeal to accountants in their 30's looking to broaden their management experience in an expanding group of companies offering good career prospects.

To apply please forward c.v. including details of current salary to:-

J.K. Myatt

Darchem Limited

West Auckland Road

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Co. Durham

DL5 0UP

CALIFORNIA AUDIT SUPERVISORS 'BIG 8' PRACTICE

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Eighteen month and two year contracts are available to recently qualified ACAs who possess the following attributes:

- * Strong audit experience, gained within a well known firm
- * Good academic background
- * Above average interpersonal skill
- * The drive to succeed in a dynamic, competitive environment.

A representative from the firm will be visiting the UK in early September to interview interested candidates. Screening interviews will take place throughout August in London and major provincial centres.

For further information please contact Trevor Stafford or Patrick Porter on 01-629 4463, or contact Trevor on 0206 271843 (eves & weekends). Alternatively send your CV to the address below.

HARRISON WILLISFINANCIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Cardinal House, 39-40 Albemarle St., London W1A 3JD. Tel: 01-629 4463.**Business Manager - CIMA/ACA £24,000 + Car Central London**

A real opportunity for a young Accountant to utilise acquired commercial skills in a fast growing business sector. The role will entail:

- * Providing financial consultancy to Sales Management.
- * Deputising for the Sales Controller.
- * Visiting customers locations.

Candidates should be effective communicators, have strong managerial skills and be under 30. Please contact:

Carmel Mallon**01-242 6321**

(or out of office hours call 01-679 8039)

Personnel Resources, 75 Grays Inn Road, WC1X 8US
Evening interviews can be arranged**PERSONNEL • RESOURCES**
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DIVISION**Last chance for ACA Training Contracts**

Just graduated? Found a job yet? If not, you can still find a position as a **Trainee Chartered Accountant** if you contact us **now**. Vacancies in London, Guildford, York, Southend, Groydon, Maidstone, and other locations with "Top 8" medium and small firms. Good A Levels and degree needed, age 21-28. Call **DAVID PHILLIPS** (London vacancies) or **GILLIAN PHILLIPS** (Home Counties/nationwide).

01-242 6321**75 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8US****PERSONNEL • RESOURCES**
FULL-TIME OFFICE ONLY**FINANCIAL CONTROLLER**

Our clients are a rapidly expanding group with interests ranging from specialised employment agency, computers, to importing and wholesaling quality furniture. To consolidate their growth and continue the rapid expansion, they require a capable Financial Controller, reporting directly to the Group Managing Director. The candidate will be responsible for all group accounting and treasury functions, supported by accounting staff and a very sophisticated computer system. The successful candidate is likely to be between 30-40 years of age, possibly a qualified accountant with experience at this level. Very attractive salary, package and prospects.

Please telephone **Miss J McAtackney, Miller McNish** 01-794-2342

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Age 23+ for widely based and demanding role in a young, rapidly growing UK subsidiary of a large US co., marketing large-scale computerised medical info system. Good book-keeping and an interest in computers essential. Salary £12K+ with good benefits.

Send CV to:

Julian de Boedari TDS Limited, Whitlock House, 6 Earls Court Road, London W6 6EA.

PART QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANTS TO £19,000 PA

Our clients are a selection of Merchant Banks and multi-national organisations who currently seek ambitious, high calibre, part qualified accountants. Levels 1 to 11 CAs, or part 1 ACAs, who now expect their next career move to involve an element of taxation, although relevant taxation experience is not a pre-requisite.

For further details telephone **Dawn Allison-Spence**, 01 623 9886 Day or 01 794 6517 Eves/Wends. Cooper Stanley Associates (Recruitment Consultants) Astrol House, 125-129 Middlessex Street, London E1 7GF.

RECENTLY QUALIFIED? CITY**£25,000 + CAR**

An outstanding opportunity has arisen within a UK subsidiary of a highly successful US computer services company for a recently qualified Accountant. The role involves complete control of the accounting function for the UK and European subsidiaries including systems development, and production of management and statutory accounts. All systems are fully computerised and the successful candidate will demonstrate a "hands-on" approach. This is a unique career opportunity for young and ambitious individuals.

Ref: 128

GRADUATE OPENINGS IN THE CITY
Up to £14,000

Our Client, a major US investment bank has vacancies for several Trainee Dealer positions. Candidates must be graduates with first class or 2:1 honours degrees in relevant disciplines and A/B grades at 'O' and 'A' level. Ambition, determination to succeed and an outgoing personality are essential. Previous experience not necessary.

Ref: 155

For further information about these and many other positions please contact **CHARLOTTE GLYNN** or **SOPHIE BANHAM** on 01-831-2288. Alternatively evenings or weekends (0252) 716302 or 01-639-4914.

Gabriel Duffy Consultancy

31 SOUTHAMPTON ROW LONDON • WC1B 5JH

TAX CONSULTANCY**WITH COMMERCIAL SECTOR BENEFITS**
LONDON - WEST END £15,000 - £40,000

Established in 1977 by a number of Tax Specialists from various backgrounds this PLC has become one of the UK's largest and most highly respected Tax Consultancies.

Due to the massive expansion in the company growth over the past twelve months they are now seeking to recruit a number of senior tax staff for the Corporate, Personal and Expenditure Tax Department.

Individuals of specific interest to the company should have gained at least two years tax experience within the following sectors: Accountancy, Banking/Financial, Inland Revenue, Legal or Commercial. The positions will offer:

- Immediate control of your own high-calibre client portfolio which will be as diverse as your abilities allow, and which will encompass a large amount of client contact and development.
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The company are interviewing now, so if you feel you have the experience and are determined to making a real career of taxation, call **Vivienne Rowe** on the telephone number below, or send your C.V. to her at your earliest convenience.

A M S Applied Management Sciences Limited
17 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4BW
Tel: 01-405 4571
Fax: 01-242 1411

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We have vacancies for trainee Chartered Accountants.

Our modern offices, which offer exceptionally pleasant working conditions, are situated in the heart of the Thames Valley.

The experience given will be wide-ranging, varied and demanding.

Please forward C.V. to:-

CLARKS
Chartered Accountants
P.O. Box 150
Cippenham Court
Cippenham Lane
SLough
Berkshire SL1 5AT

A CAREER IN RECRUITMENT
City West End

Management Personnel is keen to appoint a number of additional recruitment specialists as part of its ambitious expansion plans; we are on track to grow by at least 50% in 1988. There is a need to appoint ambitious individuals who will contribute to that expansion. To be considered for these demanding career positions you will need to be an experienced recruiter aged between 25 and 30. In return for enthusiasm, commitment and success, we offer a high basic salary, generous bonus, a company car after a qualifying period as well as training and development of your skills as a recruitment professional. We are particularly keen to hear from consultants experienced in banking and accountancy recruitment who wish to work in Central London.

To arrange an evening or weekend appointment to find out how Management Personnel can contribute to your career plan, write or telephone Susan Milford, Divisional Manager.

Management Personnel
25 City Road
LONDON
EC1Y 1AA
Telephone 01 256 5041 (24 hours)

Management Personnel
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Would you like to join a multidisciplinary team which has grown in under four years to be leading advisers in capital rewards? We define capital rewards as being significant and deferred payments, whether in cash or kind, often linked to share values.

We aim to be the most innovative and creative consultancy in our areas of expertise. Our work to develop ESOPs in the United Kingdom illustrates our practical approach to this aim.

We value the personal standards that professional qualifications usually carry with them. But any recruit, whether accountant, actuary, banker, barrister, company secretary, solicitor or simply commercially experienced, must aspire to be an all-round consultant with energy, judgement and flair directed at providing excellence of service.

We want to establish contact with any person with the ability to become an outstanding consultant in our field, whether or not they envisage a career move in the short or long term, so that we can maintain a dialogue leading joining forces. Our rewards are outstanding.

Write in confidence to our Chief Executive Laurie Brennan, about how you see the present and future for capital rewards, and about your aspirations in this field. The address is 30/34 New Bridge Street, London, EC4V 6BL.

NBS

New Bridge Street Consultants

ACCOUNTANT

The Geo. Adams Group is a leading supplier of high quality meat and meat products from its modern factories in South Lincolnshire.

An Accountant is required to take responsibility for all accounting operations within the fresh meat division and to further develop the information and decision making processes. This is a key appointment within a small, highly motivated management team. Responsibility will be to the Site Director and functionally, to the Group Chief Accountant.

The successful candidate will be qualified, computer literate, and have the ability to manage and develop staff. In this fast-moving business he/she will be ever alert to change and commercially aware, will be mature in judgement and will be able to communicate well at all levels.

An attractive remuneration package including company pension scheme and PPP will be offered. Applications with full C.V. to:

G.C.M. Adams - Director
GEO. ADAMS & SONS
Fulney Lane,
Spalding,
Lincs.
Tel (0775) 61133

**FINANCIAL CONTROLLER****HAYWARDSHEATH****c£25,000 p.a.**

Reporting to the Managing Director and the Group Financial Controller you will be responsible for a small team in providing a comprehensive financial service to a major subsidiary of the R. T. Ward (Holdings) Limited Group of Companies. This will include the control of liability accounts together with the preparation of annual financial accounts for audit and monthly management information.

You will be a qualified accountant probably aged between 25 and 35 with considerable experience gained in the insurance industry.

In addition to the salary quoted above, the Company operates an attractive pension scheme, BUPA and profit related bonus and share incentive schemes.

Please write giving full details including current salary to: **Jan Nicholas** at R. T. Ward Ltd, Sussex House, 58/62 Perryman Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1DN.

GRADUATES ATII TAX TRAINING

1988 Graduates sought by firms of Chartered Accountants for career roles training in personal/corporate tax, studying for the Institute of Taxation qualification (ATII). Candidates should have a good academic record and outgoing personality. Vacancies exist in London and many provincial locations. **Delia Snape** (01) 493 7786 or after 8.00 pm (01) 531 7796.

HARRISON WILLISFINANCIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Cardinal House, 39-40 Albemarle St., London W1A 3JD. Tel: 01-629 4463.**CHASE DE VERE HOME LOANS PLC**

One of the country's leading specialist mortgage consulting firms currently offers positions for high quality mortgage advisors in Kent, Essex and Hertfordshire. The applicant would normally have experience of the mortgage markets. However, proven track record in general financial services would be considered. The package includes basic salary, commission, car and real long term career development. For full details please ring:

01-930 7242 ref: MCT

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Experienced Word Processor Operators

Prestigious City Stockbrokers c £9,500 p.a. (or more if exceptional)

An opportunity has arisen for three Word Processing Operators to full utilise their excellent W.P. skills and play a vital role as members of our expanding Research Team

You will need fast, accurate, typewriting skills (60 wpm + essential), the ability to cope with deadline pressures, and a flexible, unflappable approach. Your first task will be to learn our new Desk Top Publishing system.

If you have two years commercial experience and feel that you would fit into our busy and professional environment, please forward your career details to:

P.O. Box A98

Secretary to Chief Executive

Up to £11,679 inclusive

The Chief Executive of this large and varied London Borough requires an experienced Secretary to provide a high level secretarial service and also supervise a small administrative support team. Besides 80 wpm shorthand and 50 wpm typing, you must have word processor experience. A good organising ability is essential to arrange business and social functions and you will also need previous supervisory experience. You must be able to use your oral and written communication skills to liaise confidently and effectively with elected councillors, senior officers and members of the public.

The Civic Centre is situated near to Hounslow Central underground station and conditions of service include a 36 hour week with a flexible scheme, and a minimum of 25 days' annual leave. It is intended that interviews will take place on 25 and 26 August 1988.

For an application form telephone 01-572 3279 (24 hour answer service) quoting ref: CE18/81 or write to the Head of Chief Executive's Office, Civic Centre, Lampton Road, Hounslow TW3 4DN. Closing date 19th August 1988.

This post is not open to job seekers.

Hounslow

An Equal Opportunity Employer

TOP SECRET £14,000

VIP Connections, board level decisions, this prestigious multinational need an organised, efficient PA. Involvement with European enterprise schemes and free trade negotiations. Your excellent communication and top class secretarial skills are essential to secure this superb post.

Jane Graham
01 537 2552
17A NEWMAN STREET, LONDON W1

CONFERENCE ADMIN £12,500

Promotional material, press releases, and Company brochures will be your responsibility as well as taking on some independent research. As admin sec to Corporate Account team you will get involved in all areas of Marketing as well as supporting on the secretarial side. You will need to be a self-starter who enjoys being busy at all times. Excellent shorthand and typing.

Jane Graham
01 537 2552
17A NEWMAN STREET, LONDON W1

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU

RECRUITMENT SOLUTIONS
Fleet Street 353 7696 or Regent Street 439 1240

OFFICE MANAGER POTENTIAL?

£12,000 5 weeks leave

This leading International Publishing House requires a PA for its London office. The ideal candidate will be a recent graduate with a degree in Business Administration or a related field. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including answering the phone, managing the mail, and organising travel arrangements. You will also be responsible for the company's social and entertainment functions. A good knowledge of shorthand and typing is essential. Salary £12,000 per annum, 5 weeks leave.

Stella Fisher
01-836 6644

Multi talented PA in PR

£12,500

The ideal candidate for this well known multi-national co. in SW1 urgently seeks a 'specialist' secretary to whom he can rely on totally.

Can you remain calm in a crisis? Are you detail oriented with the ability to prioritise your workload? All these are essential qualities as you will be responsible for managing a very busy, small dept. as well as organising and attending numerous press conferences. 55 wpm typing. Age spec.

Stella Fisher
01-836 6644

BANKING BENEFITS £12K Neg.

A large international merchant bank in EC3 is looking for a second jobber to join their corporate finance dept. In addition to copy typing you will be managing and liaising with clients, attending meetings and looking after the young, fun team.

In return for all your hard work you will be rewarded with an excellent salary package including mortgage facility.

Stella Fisher
01-836 6644

YOUNG BILINGUAL SECRETARY

Required for prestigious London offices of international finance company. Working knowledge of French and German plus excellent secretarial, administrative and supportive skills. Salary negotiable.

Please send C.V. with handwritten letter to:

Britania Marketing Ltd.,
Attn: Ms Mary Askew,
Grosvenor Place,
London SW1X 7HL

Pan Books

PAN BOOKS LIMITED are a major mass market publishing company in the U.K. with outlets in London, Basingstoke, Australia and New Zealand.

We currently have a vacancy for:

Secretary/P.A. - Group Sales & Marketing Director

An exciting and challenging position will shortly become available for an individual of the highest calibre to undertake the secretarial and administrative assistance for our main board Sales and Marketing Director.

The successful candidate is likely to have good secretarial skills, including shorthand, and will be able to work unsupervised using their own initiative. An additional responsibility is Personnel back-up to the Personnel Officer based at our Basingstoke office.

We offer a competitive salary and the normal benefits associated with a major publishing company.

Applications should be made in writing enclosing a full c.v. and salary expectations to:-

Carolyn Kimpton
Pan Books Limited
18/21 Cavaye Place, London SW10 6PG.

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EC2 £8,000 - £10,000 + Perks

We are an international Company based in the City providing software services to financial institutions.

We are seeking an attractive, well groomed and flexible receptionist, as front office representative to protect successful image to clients in both appearance and manner. Duties will include operating a small switchboard, the typing (50 wpm) of documents for our Sales Manager, keeping our mailing lists up to date and liaising with general administration staff involved in other company activities.

Knowledge of one foreign language would be a definite advantage.

If you are between 20 and 27, have the necessary experience and would like to join our small friendly team working on your own initiative, please send your CV directly to:

Miss Night Schoolhouse
RDC International Ltd
64 Leamington Road
LONDON
EC2M 5TP
or phone for further details on 01 258 1942

Howards Way...

circa £10,000

Our client, a major presence in the exclusive, glamorous Yachting world, seeks a confident, self-motivated College Leaver for a newly created position. As a key member of the team, you will be liaising with VIP clients; checking yacht details; updating client lists; providing general secretarial support. Occasional trips to Antigua/South of France presenting yachts to clients. Lots of scope to learn about and get more involved in charter broking. Age 18+. 45 wpm typing requested. Call 01-483 0713 for details.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

SLOANE RANGER II

Some time ago we asked for a dynamic young person who exhibited attributes that were foreign to the above species. We got one! We are now asking for a Senior Secretary to work as part of a young ambitious team within an International Communications Agency based in Covent Garden. You will need excellent technical skills (Mackintosh Software), a sense of humour and above all a degree of maturity that sets you apart from the crowd. In return you can expect to negotiate a salary of between £10-12,000 (+ benefits) whilst securing an extremely pleasant working environment.

Ring Nikki on 01-379 7919.

LOOKING FOR VARIETY?

If so, would you like to be PA to the Executive Officer of a London-based international trade organisation.

All usual secretarial skills required, but the successful candidate must enjoy variety, hard-work and be a flexible self-starter to work as part of a small, dedicated and creative team.

Please send CV to: Thomas Mann Appointments, International House, 1 St Katharine's Way, London, E1 9UN

INTERIOR DESIGNERS/ ARCHITECTS

PA required for MD of busy Design Practice. Good organisational skills plus accurate shorthand and typing. Age 25 plus. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing with C.V. to:

Andrew Hodgkinson
Simons Design
245 Old Marylebone Road
London NW1 5QT

BARRISTERS' CHAMBERS IN THE TEMPLE

A very busy set of Barristers' Chambers requires a legal WP operator to work in bright new offices in the Temple. The successful applicant will have experience in producing legal documents and will be able to work at speed and with accuracy.

A salary in the region of £12,500 is on offer.

Anyone interested should telephone (01) 583 1770 and ask to speak to Richard.

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Required for head and neck surgeon in private consulting room at London Bridge. Salary according to age and experience. For further details please ring 01-403 4501.

CONSERVATIVE MP

Seeks high calibre secretary/PA to help with constituency and Parliamentary work. The job, based in Westminster, is interesting and varied and will mean working a great deal on own initiative. Salary by agreement.

Reply to BOX E75
c/o The Times Newspaper,
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MATTHEWS OFFICE FURNITURE LTD.

Requires a P.A. to Director for their busy Eastern Centre showrooms. This family run company has 14 showrooms nationwide and supplies quality furniture to leading companies. Applicants should be 20-35 with general secretarial experience. Salary £10,500 plus bonuses.

Ring Claire Matthews 01 357 8621.

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Up to £12,000

Small independent on-line Leicester City requires a person to run office + co. fit. Work on own. Start presentation. Call 01-483 0713 for details.

01 353 7080

ADMINISTRATOR c£16,000

Prestigious Assistant to Vice President of International operations. Previous senior level experience together with shorthand essential for this position although 20% of time will be taken up with secretarial duties. Strong organisational abilities are vital - you will be expected to arrange meetings at international level, and make complicated travel arrangements. Ample scope for foreign travel and full involvement.

Please contact JOANNA STEPHENSON on 01-483-9255.
Zach Hay Associates (Rec Cons).

01-588 6674

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

Capable and energetic required by an Investment Company in SW2. Duties include reception, typing, responsible shorthand, WP knowledge. Excellent conditions.

Salary up to £11,000.

Apply 01-244 8399 (9.30am - 6pm)

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EXCEPTIONALLY fast thinking, positive and able to build up and maintain a large busy City team of Bankers' Secretaries. The successful candidate will be a self-starter who enjoys being busy at all times. Excellent shorthand and typing. Salary £10,000 p.a. plus bonuses.

Call Lynn Cecil on 01-724 7616

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

to £30,000

Our client, an international property developer, is seeking to recruit an administrator/financial controller to work for its successful London office.

Responsible for the efficient running of the UK office, duties will include the hiring of necessary support staff, preparation of management accounts, tax planning and investment of funds.

The successful applicant should be a self-starter with a sound commercial mind. The position would suit a qualified accountant with 6-10 years experience gained in a professional environment. Age 30/35 preferred.

Baker McCall Associates

01-379 0279 REC CONS

19 Russell Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 5HP

LEGAL LA CREME

Legal Secretary

Oil Industry c£11K-12K

Elf UK is currently seeking a Legal Secretary to join their Corporate Affairs Department in Knightsbridge.

Working principally for two Legal Advisers, you will provide them with an efficient secretarial and administrative service.

You must be educated to 'A' level standard, have WP/PC skills, at least one year's experience of legal secretarial work and enjoy working as part of a team. A knowledge of French would be useful, but is by no means essential.

In return we offer an excellent benefits package, and an active sports and social club. If you are interested, please send full cv with daytime telephone number and current salary to:

Helen Glennie-Smith
Personnel Assistant
Elf UK plc
197 Knightsbridge
London SW7 1RZ
NO AGENCIES

NOTICE TO READERS

Readers are advised to seek professional advice before entering into any form of agreement, or parting with any money. When replying to box numbers please do not enclose original documentation and mark the box number clearly on the top right hand corner of the envelope and return it to:

THE BOX NUMBER DEPARTMENT

P O BOX 484
VIRGINIA STREET
WAPPING
LONDON E1 9DD

Board fines Gatting £5,000

Mike Gatting, the former England captain, was fined £5,000 after a Lord's disciplinary hearing yesterday over three charges connected with his controversial autobiography, *Leading from the Front*.

Gatting was told he had been let off lightly because of his previous "exemplary" record. The TCCB disciplinary committee considered charges that Gatting was guilty of breaching Board regulations and said his penalty would have been doubled if he had been in similar trouble before.

A full statement issued by the TCCB after inquiry said: "The discipline committee of the Test and County Cricket Board met to consider two charges against Mike Gatting relating to publications without Board consent and in breach of his contract."

"The first concerned his book entitled *Leading from the Front* and the other an article by way of preview to the book which appeared in *The Sunday Times* on June 12. The committee found the charges relating to the book proved, but dismissed the charge relating to the article in *The Sunday Times*."

"In view of serious nature of the offence the committee has imposed a fine of £5,000. In assessing this penalty the committee took into account the previous exemplary record of Mike Gatting and his great contributions for the good of the game."

"The Committee has recorded that were it not for these contributions the fine would have been at least doubled, and give notice that any future breaches of this nature of the Board's regulations will attract penalties of like severity."

The Middlesex captain, dismissed as England captain in June following newspaper allegations about his private life, gave his side of events to the eight-man discipline panel which debated the case for eight hours.

Gatting's book included an account of the finger-wagging and swearing row with Shakoor Rana, the Pakistan umpire, in Faisalabad during last winter's England tour. No player is allowed to comment on a tour until two years have elapsed.

It was all a far cry from Wednesday when Gatting received an OBE from the Queen at Buckingham Palace for leading England to victory in Australia two winters ago.

A tour likely to end in triumph

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

At some point over the next few days, the grief will begin again. Unless someone manages to change the tired old record still spinning on the turntable, England will once more be fed into the West Indian mangle whereupon, after a brief period of mourning and a public inspection of the body, a new familiar ritual of the inquest will occupy the country.

It is a routine which has grown more depressing with each passing match this summer. Moreover, it has become dangerously obsessional. So much has been made of England's thorough incompetence that the quality of the opposition has been shamefully underplayed.

The simple fact that England have been beaten — no, slaughtered — by a vastly superior side has too often been camouflaged by the noisy wailing of excuses, the dissection of deficiencies and the innumerable suggestions for cures, some sound, some quaint and some simply outrageous.

Maybe now, while there is one last chance to admire them, is the moment to acknowledge the virtues which Vivian Richards' West Indian side have brought to bear on this horribly one-sided Cornhill series. Not just brute force and not just class but also, and essentially, the very qualities of single-minded commitment and self-discipline once thought to be alien to the Caribbean way of life. They are not content with their natural gifts as cricketers, they are intent on working tirelessly to improve them.

Anyone seeking confirmation could have satisfied himself through a visit to the Oval yesterday morning. For three hours, the West Indies went through the sort of concentrated practice session more readily associated with a team going into the final Test one down, rather than three up. The fast bowlers operated off full run-ups, the batsmen



Captain victorious: Viv Richards, exercising at the Oval yesterday, may tour England again in 1991, when he will be 39 (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

played without frills or frivolity.

Overseeing it all, usually with a benign eye but just occasionally with a sharp word for any hint of malingering, was Richards. A very different Richards, it must be said, from the man who began this tour three months ago. Then, he was moodily withdrawn and prone to suspicion. Now, he is very plainly at one with his job and at peace with himself.

The manager, Jackie Hendriks, agrees. "I think Viv still had a few doubts when the tour started. He was the target of very unfair comparisons with Clive Lloyd. He had started out with a handicap

but he has shrugged that off. He has created his own team and the boys look up to him."

Richards confirmed: "It was one of the hardest things in life to follow a man like Clive but I have always been happy in this job — it is other people who haven't always been happy with me."

Captain and manager agree that England have not put up the sort of fight they anticipated. "I thought it would be much harder," said Richards while Hendriks added: "I thought we were in for a series of real Tests, of nail-biting finishes."

He examined his fingers critically: "My nails seem to have got through without much damage."

Richards is rightly proud of the manner in which raw young tourists, such as Hooper and Ambrose, have responded to his captaincy and the speed at which they have advanced. He explains: "I thought some of them would be here primarily to learn but they have worked so hard at becoming influential players in their own right."

There was praise, too, for the part played by Malcolm Marshall — not simply through his 31 wickets but in his role as tutor to the young bowlers. Said Hendriks: "It is as if he has adopted them. He is very unselfish with his knowledge and he has a lot to impart. He will sit and talk

with a young bowler for as long as is needed. I know he is threatening to retire soon but I still hope he doesn't."

Richards himself, entering his 99th Test match today, is not even thinking of retirement. He recalled: "I once said I would only play until I was 35. Well, I'm 36 now and I'm feeling better than when I was 23. I'm not going to make any big statements about this being my last Test in England. I have a little gut feeling that I might just be back."

He will fly home next week for two months of rest — "the longest break I have had since 1974". He may well be back next year with Sussex, or with a Lancashire League club. If

so, he will come back with his reputation enhanced by the way in which he has led his team this summer.

Only Richie Richardson is ruled out of the West Indies team today as they attempt to complete a 4-0 victory. They will not be discouraged by the pitch, which is firm and brown and likely to grant more bounce for the quicker bowlers than last year, when Pakistan amassed 708 on it. England eventually salvaged a draw from that ordeal but it is a sobering fact that, of the team which played 12 months ago, only Neil Foster survives to take part today. Nothing could be more revealing about this year of turmoil.

Lamb's absence will open the way for Bailey

By Andrew Longmore

Graham Gooch, the fourth England captain of the summer, and his ragged army will try to salvage some pride from the final Cornhill Test against West Indies at the Oval today, but they will be without the experience and fighting spirit of Allan Lamb, who joined the lengthy casualty list yesterday.

Lamb was ruled out after failing a fitness test on his injured right calf muscle. His withdrawal means a long-

awaited Test debut for his county colleague, Rob Bailey, who will bat at No. 3.

Lamb's absence leaves England with perhaps their least experienced batting line-up since the war. Apart from Gooch, who captains England for the first time in his 67th Test, the other four main England batsmen — Curtis, Bailey, Maynard, and Robin Smith — have just two caps between them. But the England manager, Micky Stewart, was still looking on the bright

side yesterday as England practised in the Oval sunshine.

"There is no point in having reservations about putting in so many relatively new players," Stewart said. "Ideally, we haven't got the right balance between youth and experience, but they've all got the opportunity now to perform at the highest level, and it's up to them."

With batting experience at a premium, England had left a

decision on Lamb's fitness until the last minute, but it was clear after a gentle jog around the ground that the injury suffered 10 days ago at Headingley had not healed properly, and he will be out for at least another 10 days.

Trust reluctantly into the role of acting captain, Gooch admitted he had not had time to think seriously about the task. But he did not completely rule out the possibility of assuming the captaincy in the long term. "I was only

phoned up and asked on Tuesday, so let's get this game out of the way first," he said.

"There has been a lot of talk about what the players should have done in this series, but now it's time for the talking to stop. The players won't need motivating because there are places at stake for the final Test of the summer, against Sri Lanka, and on the winter tour to India. We have to compete to win; our performance to date have not been up to standard."

ENGLAND (from: G A Gooch (captain), T A Curtis, R J Bailey, M J Maynard, R A Smith, D J Gower, G P Pringle, C Richards, P A J DeFreitas, N A Foster, J H Childs, G O Small).

WEST INDIES (from: V A Richards (captain), C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, C L Hooper, A L Logie, P L J Dujon, R A Harper, M D Marshall, G E R Ambrose, K W Benjamin, C A Walsh, B P Patterson. Unlabeled: H D Bird and K E Palmer).

TV TIMES: BBC2 10.55 a.m.-1.05 p.m., 1.35 p.m. includes golf, 4.10-6.10 p.m. BBC1 1.50-4.10 p.m. Highlights: 11.35 p.m.

WEATHER: Mainly dry, some sun; wind mainly westerly light to moderate; maximum temperature, 22°C (72°F).

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Whitaker breaks puissance record

By Jenny MacArthur

Michael Whitaker and Next Didi, joint winners of the Birmingham and Aachen puissance competitions this season, helped break the Dublin puissance record yesterday when they cleared the big wall at 7ft 5in at the Dublin Horse Show to share equal first place with Captain John Ledingham, of Ireland, on Kilkotrim, and Willibert Mehkopf, of West Germany, on Hennessy Wabbs. The previous record of 7ft 4in had stood since 1984.

With perfect conditions in the famous Ballsbridge Arena the three horses all looked capable of jumping even higher but the rules allow only four jump-offs. Whitaker, who bought the Belgian-bred Didi earlier this year, was more than happy to stop at 7ft 5in. "It's the highest I've jumped and the highest he's jumped," he said, grinning broadly.

Earlier, Nick Skelton's Olympic shortlisted horse, Apollo, returned to the winning enclosure in the Shell Power and Speed event — just three days after winning the Silk Cut Derby at Hickstead, one of the sport's toughest events. Yesterday's competition was small fry by comparison with a first prize of £161,250 compared with £25,000 last Sunday — but "a good whizz round" was just what the 13-year-old gelding needed.

Five with clean-up job

The streamlining of Rugby League administration took a big step forward yesterday with the creation of a five-man board of directors under a chief executive, David Oxley (Keith Macklin writes). One of the board's immediate tasks will be to erase the nasty aftertaste of the foul play on the pitch, and crowd riots off it, which tarnished an otherwise booming sport last season.

The decision to replace the existing nine-man management committee with a smaller board of directors was taken

at yesterday's meeting in Leeds of the full council, on which all clubs have membership. The five members will be elected from within the council, a chairman will be appointed, and Oxley's title of secretary-general will be replaced with that of chief executive.

David Howes, the public relations officer, said each of the board members would have a special area of responsibility such as finance, discipline and crowd control, sponsorship, marketing and development.

BBC stranglehold on FA Cup ties after £30m deal

By Peter Ball

While the Football League clubs were discovering exactly what the ITV deal means at Villa Park yesterday afternoon, the FA finally confirmed that it has agreed to a five-year exclusive contract for FA Cup and international matches with BBC and British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB).

The FA deal is worth £30 million over five years and gives BBC exclusive rights to live Cup ties except the final, with the option to put out a crucial World Cup qualifying match live. BSB will take in

the other midweek internationals and cup replays.

"We are delighted that the FA has been able to conclude an agreement with the BBC and BSB," Ted Croker, the secretary of the Football Association, said. "We have recognized that it was only through BSB's initiative that the FA, and the Football League, can look forward to receiving a fair market price."

Events at Villa Park were less clear cut. At their separate meetings, the second division and associate members were

given details of the ITV offer and sent it back asking for some areas to be renegotiated with the official Football League negotiating team before being presented to the extraordinary general meeting on Monday.

Afterwards, Ian Stott, of Oldham, the chairman of the second division group, and Reg Driver, of the associate members, expressed some reservation about the situation. "I'm very sad at the withdrawal of BSB," Stott said. "I honestly believe they offer the better long-deal for football."

The first division, which had first indicated its support for ITV's £44 million at Villa Park two weeks ago, was rather more bullish, and afterwards Philip Carter, the Football League president, made an impassioned speech. "If anybody has any criticism of my actions as president, I want them to stand up and tell me."

well as live coverage of the Skol Cup final and one premier division match.

The television companies will pay — in total — just £250,000 more than ITV are offering for live transmission of individual games in the Football League. The agreement is around £100,000 more than the previous contract

Scotland sell cheap

Scottish Television and BBC Scotland have signed a two-year deal with the Scottish Football League — at a fraction of ITV's proposed £44 million deal in England.

The two networks will pay just £750,000 for recorded highlights of Scotland League games throughout the season and Skol Cup semi-finals, as

Return to the ring

David Pearce, the former British heavyweight champion, is considering making a boxing comeback in the United States after the British Boxing Board of Control failed to have him jailed for not returning his Lonsdale belt.

Deputy Judge Gareth Williams QC said at the High Court in London that he had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the Board had not proved beyond all reasonable doubt that Pearce was in contempt of a court order to return the belt which he won in 1983.

Early start

The European men's professional golf tour will have its earliest start next year, teeing off with the Tensifer Open on February 23.

Inflated price

Bonn (AFP) — Katarina Witt, of East Germany, the world and Olympic ice skating champion, denies being paid \$4 million (£2.35 million) to appear in the Holiday on Ice show for six months. She told Stern magazine that the figures put forward by the western Press are far too high, but would not say exactly how much she was being paid.

London Rules

Melbourne (AP) — Four leading Australian Rules football teams will compete in a three-game exhibition series in London, Miami and Toronto later this year, the Victorian Football League (VFL) announced yesterday. The Hawthorn Hawks, Collingwood Magpies, Carlton Blues and the Geelong Cats, will contest prize-money of \$100,000 (£60,000) in the tournament. Carlton facing Hawthorn at the Oval cricket ground.

Football's gain to be others' loss

By Peter Ball and Pat Butcher

Other sports are likely to feel the effects of ITV's apparently successful bid for the rights to show Football League games. Athletics, the subject of ITV's previous big coup, is particularly liable to find itself with a reduced contract when that comes up for renewal in 1990.

Several ITV companies are said to be disappointed with the returns on their present investment. Now faced with the need to find a minimum of £11 million a year for football, out of a sports budget which was only £13.5 million in total last year, major economies will have to be made.

One ITV insider said: "There are only two sports which I think will survive with any strength — football, of course, and boxing. But athletics must be very vulnerable. It hasn't delivered anything like the audiences necessary."

In the first year of the ITV contract for athletics, which began on April 1, 1985, there were 22 meetings in the British Board package, plus five International Athletics Club (IAC) promotions, negotiated under a separate deal.

The Board output is down to 18, with the amalgamation of the women's with the men's A.A.A. championships this weekend in Birmingham, and

the dropping of two road races and an indoor meeting. The IAC has also lost its series of three road races.

It is understood that the Board contract, which cost ITV £10.5 million for five years, included provision for the dropping of more meetings in the last two years, 1989 and 1990.

Greg Dyke, the London Weekend Television controller of programmes, was recently overruled by the regional companies when he sought to launch a publicity campaign emphasizing that athletics is an ITV sport.

John Bromley, the head of ITV sport, rejected rumours that the money and coverage on offer would be cut by half, but he confirmed that ITV was certainly looking at the sport carefully.

"I think we came in at a time when they hadn't really got their act together. And I think they were slightly immature and couldn't cope with all the money," he said.

Mike Farrell, the Board secretary, said yesterday: "We don't know how the football deal will affect us. I know ITV was very keen to get football. But we have no idea of future contracts. We shall be looking at all the avenues."

High earners on Kop

The cost of Liverpool's continued success was disclosed yesterday in the accounts for the year ended on May 6 (Ian Ross writes). Eight members of the staff earned more than £100,000 and one — almost certainly Kenny Dalglish, the manager — picked up in excess of £200,000.

Payment to management and players increased by more than £660,000 to £2,923,000 but revenue reserves, excluding income from the FA Cup final against Wimbledon, played after the accounts closed, stand at £2,271,000. Net profit is £327,000.

● Dundee United have signed the Yugoslav international, Miodrag Kirvokapic, and London-born Raphael Meade, formerly with Arsenal, from Sporting Lisbon, for £400,000.

meet yesterday's deadline set by the High Court for the payment of £23,000 rent arrears to the local borough council and bailiffs have been ordered to repossess their Somerton Park ground. The GM Vauxhall Conference club was relegated from the Football League last season. Last night, Eddie May, the club manager, resigned.

● Newport County failed to

END COLUMN

How the logic is argued away

By Simon Barnes

The committee meeting is the worst decision-making device in the history of mankind. It stands to reason, then, that cricket is run by committees.

Meetings are part of life for many people. They work well enough — provided their aim is to communicate decisions already made. But you simply cannot use committee meetings to make firm, clear decisions or to create clear, far-sighted policies.

A meeting between two people is often splendidly creative. In a committee of three, things have already lost their edge. Once you have more than three, you have lost control.

The dynamics of the committee simply do not make for good decision-making. Meetings create argument, opposition, compromise and concession. Committees give you a mixture of pig-headed stubbornness and feather-brained shilly-shallying. A member of a committee wants to stuff his ideas down the meeting's throat, or, if lower in the hierarchy, at least to be making a contribution.

The various committees that run English cricket, and in particular the one that picks the England team, have spent the summer giving a harrowing performance of committee maddening: this has been a summer of changeableness, incoherence, and certifiable incompetence.

Life preserved in the lager

The selectors have shown tremendous loyalty, but only to each other. Players, and in particular the lacklustre captains, get jumped on from the dizzy heights, as the committee continues with life in the lager.

Committees act best when they protect the power and insecurities of their members. In cricket, the actual players are an underclass: treated with a degree of contempt, and a good deal of mistrust. Players get flung out for failing, while the selection committee goes on and on.

The No. 1ish this season was the Gatting Affair. To sack a man at the behest of a pop newspaper seemed odd to me. The banning of his book — which reveals nothing but that Gatting is a bit of an old sulkpot, and it needs no ghost from the grave to tell us that — was a further nonsense.

The idea of facing the best bowling attack in the world with Pringle at No. 6 was nothing less than grotesque. The appointment and immediate discarding of Embury had a surreal quality. Then, from caution to recklessness: in a single bound with the appointment of Cowdrey. He seems like a nice boy.

Now we have Gooch, the England captain who could not stand the pace of county leadership, and whose best known captaincy experience was with the treacherous South African Breweries XI. And on and on.

Where is the logic? Where is the coherence? The selection committee's major achievement has been to transform this summer into a trivia question: name all four England captains of 1988. That is, if the committee sticks at it.

Lord knows I am so drawn-beater for a full-time manager — mainly because the man chosen as manager will have to be chosen by a committee. That means he will be a Good Chap, who knows when to touch his forehead. Someone who knows exactly where he stands in the class system of cricket: a classic Compromise Candidate, in short.

Power without responsibility

If, in the real world, a managing director kept firing his deputies, the chairman would conclude, and rightly so, that this said more about the MD than it did about the deputies. The MD would get promoted — as manager of the Ouzadongou office.

But the selection committee sails serenely onwards, basking in the delights that only power without responsibility can bring: the members are unaccountable, and unaccountable: the true aristocrats of the modern game.

Someone once told me that American football showed the two worst things in American society: violence and committee meetings. English cricket demonstrates the two worst things in English society: the class system — and committee meetings.